

Mom Guess What Newspaper

WORLD AIDS DAY 1999

In Memory of Those Lost To AIDS in Sacramento

1982-Patrick Moriarity 1984-Frank Cook, Tom Neri 1985-Don Baker, Fred Hibberd, Sean Harper, Rock Hudson, Gary Johnson, Norm Morrison, Leon Mouton, Felix Oramas, Clyde Phelps, Dan Rundle, David Reeder, Jack Simmons 1986-Gary Bartlett, **Dan Borntrager, Richard Madrid Clayberg, Denna Dom, Art Funamura, Chuck Furbush, Rick Hernandez, Warren Jameson, Steven Lesly, DeWayne Dale Linam, **Hal Merritt, Scott Oatman, Don Perez, Randy Pike, Steve Pollara, Tim Richmond, Peter Sartori, Dr. Harvey Thompson, Ray Wintree, David Wright 1987-Al Adami, Kevin Adams, Michael Bennett, Rudy Estrella, Linda Evans, Herb Finger, Mel D. Foote, Amador Gonzalez, Rob Hale, Roy Hall, Richard Hendra, John Hickman, Randy Hindman, Jeffrey, Anthony Tone Lopez, Glen Miller, David Mills, Toby O'Neill, Ron Parsons, Greg Rogers, Dan Rundle, Joseph Runzo, David Scalf, Mick Shaughnessy, Roger Smith, Robert Leroy Smith, Daryl Speicher, Ron Tauzer, James Tinsley, Ted Van Meeter, Rick Vollar, James G. Ward, Stephen Winterrowd, Kevin Wulfert 1988-, Baby Donald Benham, Dick Bohmbach, Leonard Bowman, David Brown, Dudley Bryant ("Alexis"), Albert Frankie Cook, Linda Cottrell, Randy Donelan, Robert Eagan, Bobby Fox, Harold Fuller, Jr., Ron Koskow, David Marus, Michael Mattos, Scott Jay Miller, Mark Minix, Merwin Mordine, Brian Dean Parker, Jose Perez, John Edwin Pinkert, John Pipkin, Adrian Reyes, David Rivera, Ken Ross, Louis Schenk, Robert Seibert, David Sheppard, Edward Spreter, Sylvester, Cyril Tomasko, Ralph Trainor, Richard Vaughn, Elliott David Zeff 1989-Chris Armitage, Jeffrey Beaton, John Camou, Gaven Celaya, Richard Crane, Gary Dee Caraway, Joel Dawes, Donny Dingler, Marc Ellis, James Ellison, Bob Ferrell, Darrell Fontes, Roy Frisch, Michael Hartig, Joey Heckman, Jose "Joe" Herrera, John J. 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May they rest in peace.

**Sacramento's Premier
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MGW FORUM/LETTERS

MGW readers are interested in what you have to say! For verification, letters to the Editor must include a signature, printed name, address and phone number. Names can be withheld if requested. MGW reserves the right to edit for brevity, clarity, content and slander. See staff box at the left for mailing and contact information.

Commission To Withhold Funds

Dear Editor:

Recently, Kilgore College in east Texas put on a production of the Tony Award winning play Angels in America. Some in the community were outraged due to the play's gay themes. Recently, the county commission withdrew a pledge of \$50,000 to the college's annual Shakespeare Festival due to the college's decision to produce the play.

I am outraged at this decision and will show my support for the college by making a small donation to help the Shakespeare Festival. As a firm believer in the First Amendment and the right of educational institutions to be free of political control, I am writing my friends and the gay press and letting them know that Kilgore College needs our help.

If any of your readers are interested in assisting the college, please have them send donations to:

Kilgore College
Office of Institutional
Advancement
1100 Broadway
Kilgore, TX 75662

I guess that anyone donating should write on their check or in their letter that the donation is for the Shakespeare Festival.

Thank you
David Wickham
San Francisco

Time to Define A "Hate Crime"

Dear Editor:

Time has passed, and I have had an opportunity to reflect on the incident that occurred on October 31 without anger. The Open book is a retail establishment that caters to the Gay and Lesbian community. It is successful because the philosophy of the owners is to provide a haven and sanctuary for the community; it embraces everyone. It sponsors community service work as a means of "returning back to the community."

On the date in question several male youths entered the business and threw eggs at the employees and merchandise. When the police were contacted, they refused to send an officer out to take a report. a second call was placed and an officer did indeed go to the establishment. However, it was not to document a hate crime, but rather to argue what his perception of a hate crime was. Unfortunately emotions ran high, and little was accomplished.

There are more questions that need answers before I am satisfied that the police took the right action. Among the questions are:

1. What is the police definition of a hate crime?
2. What benchmarks must be in place before a crime is considered a hate crime?
3. If a woman called the police department stating she was raped, would it be treated any

differently than a hate crime? Are there varying degrees of assault?

4. If Halloween fell on a Friday, and several youths entered a Jewish Synagogue and threw eggs at the rabbi and torah, would it be considered a hate crime? If yes, what is the difference between a place of worship and a place of business that caters to a minority group?

5. Can a hate crime be based on perception? Under what circumstances would this occur if yes?

6. What policy is in effect when under other circumstances, a victim is hysterical, making wild accusations and is unaware of what rights have or have not been infringed upon? For example, someone involved in a hit and run motor vehicle accident.

The incident that occurred distresses me for several reasons. One of them, is that it did occur in Sacramento, and in 1999. Another, is that the Police Department wasted man-hours to argue what is or what is not a possible hate crime. On the surface, it appears as if the Sacramento Police Department practices selective law enforcement and is homophobic. Based on what I have read, it casts the Police in a poor light.

Your views on this issue and incident would be greatly appreciated.

Falcon Lee
Sacramento

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Christian Unity Will Destroy Americans' Freedom of Choice!

Dear Editor:

American churches must be taxed, and legally dissolved from disparate foreign corporate sponsors, to retain and/or restore the individual rights for which Americans have valiantly fought and substantially won.

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Steve Harrold, Supervising District Attorney	440-5840

CHP

Lt. Montey Hensley	581-2300
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SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPT. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Linda Birner	441-6397
Midge Marino	927-5651

A Reminder: If you have an issue with the Sacramento police Department, there is a group of SPD officers and civilians that volunteer to help facilitate better communications between the GLBT community and the Police department. This group founded the Sacramento Police Advisory Committee:

Sgt. Cara Westin	264-5044	Capt. Jim Hyde	566-6460
Officer Barbara Schmacher	564-5471	Linda Birner	441-6397
Midge Marino	927-5651		

From page 2

Governor Endorses Kuehl

Dear Editor:

Throughout my career in public service, I have rarely made endorsements in Democratic primaries. But I am making an exception in the 23rd Senate District. There are two reasons for my decision. First, Sheila Kuehl in my opinion, is an extraordinary legislator, community leader - and human being. Second, Sharon and I actually live in the 23rd District and I want Sheila Kuehl to be my next senator!

Sheila has drafted more than 40 laws that have helped improve lives. Her legislative vision has helped crack down on domestic violence, clean up our drinking water, prohibit discrimination and fund after school programs for at risk youth. This year, as Governor, I signed into law Sheila's landmark reform of our state's failing system for collecting the billions of dollars in unpaid child support owed by deadbeat parents.

Sheila's leadership qualities are also apparent to her colleagues, peers and independent observers. In her first term in the Assembly, the non-par-

tisan California Journal named her "Rookie of the Year". In her second term, she was named speaker Pro Tem of the Assembly. In the current session, she is serving as Chair of the critical Assembly Judiciary Committee.

A 1998 poll of Sacramento reporters, legislators and staff also named Sheila the "Most Intelligent" Assembly Member and the "Member with the Greatest Integrity."

Before her election to the State Assembly, Sheila had a distinguished career in television, as a law professor and as a pioneering civil rights attorney. In 1989, she founded the California Women's Law Center. In short, Sheila Kuehl will make a truly outstanding member of the State Senate in every way. I am proud to endorse her candidacy and will enthusiastically vote for her in the March 7th Democratic primary election.

Best Regards,

GRAY DAVIS
Governor
State of California

Sex And Gender Liberation Institute

By Jeffery Montgomery
Guest Writer

I'm Jeffrey Montgomery and I am, among other things, the Executive Director of the Triangle Foundation. Triangle is Michigan's statewide GLBT advocacy organization. While our origin is as an anti-violence project, and we continue to be on the front line of victim-survivor service, intervention and advocacy, in the process of our emergence and growth over the last ten years, we have been able to provide assistance to thousands of people in a myriad of ways.

We have also become one of the few organizations, on either a statewide or national level that routinely takes up causes and cases that deal directly with sexual persecution. And our conclusion is that the failure to achieve full equality and protection is the failure to realistically face the sex questions, which are at the root of our oppression and subjugation.

Our sexual identity is what makes us uniquely who we are. It is also the reason why the majority culture oppresses us. Unfortunately, we have become helpful participants in our domination.

Our culture is very Puritanical to begin with. We exist in one of the most sex-phobic, sex-terrorized societies. We live in a time of great fear and humiliation about sex in general. Policy-makers, who are in thrall to right wing, conservative, reactionary neo-Puritanism, view us ---avowed GLBT--- as the problem at the root of today's social challenges. Especially at these end-times and millennial fever, they view our existence, as the reason that all is not right for the next Century.

We are, to them, the ultimate Y2K bug. And when next year proves to be just another year, no Second Coming, no paradise on Earth; we will be blamed again for our ungodly ways, our uncleanness, and as spoiling it for everyone else.

Unfortunately there will be consequences; there will be backlash. I'd like to address some of these issues from the standpoint of one who works every day with people who have been punished and tormented for their sexual and gender expression.

One of the areas that Triangle has been committed to, as part of our social justice agenda, is the targeting of GLBT people for arrest and legal harassment. This is primarily and notably seen through entrapment and other arrests of gay men and men who have sex with men in so-called "public" and not-so-public areas. Rest areas, T-rooms, parks, the woods, the

subway, wherever. We also work for sex workers. Sex Providers, as I chose to call them. We work for commercial sex venues and erotic entertainers, when they have been singled-out for persecution.

We have taken a lot of heat from supporters of our organization. We have lost donors because we defend these people. We have spent hours and weeks and years trying to justify this work.

Well, we don't waste that time too much anymore, because we are committed to the idea that if one is unjustly arrested for expressions of their sexual desire, expressions which are carried out between consenting adult people, and if there is no violence or coercion present, that it is not the State's business. We are not in a position to judge that activity.

What we are in a position to effect is the way that the heterosexual mainstream punishes, shames and criminalizes that activity. The fact is, as pointed out this morning, that we are all sexual outlaws and that in most states our sex is still illegal, regardless of the status of sodomy laws. The fact is that sex registries are very much a serious and direct GLBT problem.

But it's that sex-phobia, internalized homophobia, sexual dysfunction model, foisted on us by compulsory heterosexuality --- hetero-normativity, as it was called this morning--- and it's that model that must be destroyed. In fact, it's that model that we all must repudiate.

Beginning with our so-called national GLBT "leadership" organizations, all the way to our local and statewide groups. I happen to believe, and this is informed by Triangle's direct work with thousands of clients, that our problem is that we've bought into, and we try to assimilate to, that hetero model. It's a screwed-up model, and it's hypocritical. These forces continue to put most GLBT people on the defensive. Because we're trans-gressive.

I have a concern that the leadership of most of our organizations ---our own so-called "mainstream" organizations --- generally avoid sex like the plague. We have allowed ourselves to seek a tepid and bland assimilation approach to gaining full rights and participation in our own lives as I read some comedian's view of this: "snacking our way to freedom." For example: Marriage. If we really believe that marriage is an institution to which we should have

full access, and to all the benefits of it, then we should expect it as a foregone conclusion and demand it without apology or defensiveness about our sexuality and how we design our sexual lives. But too often in the last several years, we have ended up trying to make ourselves look so heterosexual, and conforming to unrealistic and unhealthy fake standards of our sexual lives. We want to look like The Rest of Them.

And why? We are becoming convinced that hetero norms are good for us. Why would we want to conform to such a model?

For example: The ill fated "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" military policy. It's known that if the President had issued the promised Executive Order, there would be no military issue today. But he, and those who supported the initiative, allowed sex and sexuality to dictate the issue, and it was our sex that was on the line. Suddenly the protection and security of the most powerful nation in the world came down to soap in the showers and the poor unwitting heteros' fear of falling victim to the lure of homo-sex! We had to issue assurances that we are among the best soldiers and Marines, going through another version of that debasing and shameful gymnastics of proving how worthy we are.

Well, of course we are. But every time we confront our detractors, and the arguments that they so successfully plant in the general public, about our unworthiness, it comes down to denying our sexuality, or extreme attempts to neutralize its effect on our lives. The fact that "gay-panic" defenses still resonate with juries, and that good judges make national headlines when they strike at them, is indication enough that we are vulnerable just because we are sexual, and expressive. We are seeing the result of centuries of sexual oppression. The preoccupation with Clinton and Monica is the most pathetic example of this. The hypocrisy of that exercise was perhaps most obvious to queers, but everyone should be appalled that a minor sex scandal controlled the world agenda for months. The President of the United States was being persecuted for his own personal sexual choices.

The President became like us, forced to separate his personal life from the public record of his achievements. He had to show repentance of his reckless sexual behavior. His family had to show that they supported him, even though he was a sexual libertine. We even could relate to the shame and hiding of a secret sexual life that Clinton had to maintain. What a closet case!

See Sex and Gender continued on pg. 22

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UNDER THE DOME

U.S. High Court Allows Lesbian's Visitation Rights

U.S. Supreme Court let stand a ruling that a lesbian who helped her partner raise a child, should have temporary visitation rights after the couple had broken up.

The case involved two women, who met in 1984 and shared what was described as a "committed, monogamous relationship." One of the two women had become pregnant through artificial insemination in Maryland, & later delivered the baby boy at a Washington hospital. The boy called his birth mother "Mama" and her partner "Mommy" & he would tell people that he has two mothers.

A Family Court judge, ruled in the boy's best interest for temporary visitation rights.

Mayoral Candidate Comes Out

TejAnna Peralta
MGW/Staff

During an interview on cable television, Bill Rosendahl of Aelphia Communications asked mayoral candidate of Los Angeles Joel Wachs if he was gay, "I am", he said.

The first openly gay mayoral candidate Wachs said "I pride myself on being truthful. If I can't be me, then I shouldn't be here." He also said that one of the problems in this country is people stereotyping minority groups, he wants to be mayor, and that it's not about sexual



Joel Wachs

orientation.

Councilwoman Jackie Goldberg who came out in 1992 as a lesbian commented on Wachs announcement, "I think it's a good political move on his part. The gay and lesbian community is not going to heavily support a candidate who isn't out."

Political analyst

Sherry Beitch said, "We're just going to have to wait and see whether the citizens think life-style is a significant issue."

No On Knight Heating Up For March Vote

The Knight Initiative goes before voters in March and received national attention last month when the gay son of the initiative's sponsor, state Senator William J. "Pete" Knight (R-Palmdale), came out against it in an op-ed in the Los Angeles Times.

The story, however, does not end there. Below is information about the many aspects of the Knight Initiative that are useful.

1. The GLBT vote is likely to be a significant factor in the Democratic presidential race---and therefore the election of the next president---as a result of the Knight Initiative. Both Vice President Gore and presidential candidate Bill Bradley have spoken out against the measure.

2. The Knight Initiative supporters represent an unusual alliance between those who advocate the death penalty for gays, those who claim they only want to "preserve marriage" and those who claim to "love the sinner and hate the sin" (the far right, the Mormon leadership, and the leadership of the Catholic and Christian Right).

3. There is growing dissent within both the Mormon and Catholic churches regarding the leaderships' active involvement in the Knight campaign.

4. The Knight Initiative represents the latest in the "kinder, gentler" evolution of anti-gay



ballot measures. With 14 seemingly simple and straightforward words---"Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California"---it wears a mask of moderation which cloaks decades of hard-line attacks by the Right against lesbians and gay men.

5. The Knight Initiative backers go so far as to repeatedly insist they and this measure are not anti-gay. Because of increasing public distaste for demonizing rhetoric, a growing public acceptance of gays and lesbians, and public opposition to discrimination, right-wing forces have toned down their anti-gay speech. At the same time, the Knight Initiative's largest individual contributor is Howard Ahmanson. Ahmanson is a Christian Reconstructionist and major funder of a number of far-right organizations, including

the Chaldeon Institute, which advocates the death penalty for gays.

6. Despite the building of a massive war chest (the Knight campaign raised more than \$3 million in just 90 days), indicating the right's use of the measure as a means to launch a broader assault on the state and country, support for the measure has been cut in half---according to the independent Field Poll.

7. The Knight Initiative furthers a split between fiscal and social conservatives. The measure calls for government intrusion into one of the most private decisions any two people can make together. There is a growing list of Republican opposition to the Knight Initiative, including Congressman Tom Campbell and the California Republican League.

8. The definition of marriage preferred by the forces behind the initiative gives good reason to be cautious about supporting their agenda. The Committee on Moral Concerns, which helped gather petition signatures, opposed legislation banning spousal rape. The Capitol Resource Institute and Focus on the Family believe a wife should "submit herself gracefully to the servant leadership of her husband".

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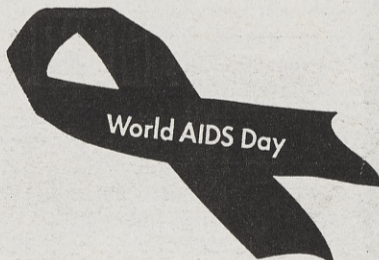
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UNDER THE DOME

Bush Pulls Back From Meeting With Gays

After months of cultivating an image as an inclusive Republican who reaches out to minorities, in his first major network television interview Governor George W. Bush (R-TX) said that he would "probably not" meet with Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest gay GOP organization, while insisting that he is "someone who is a uniter, not a divider."

Bush's two main rivals differed with him on meeting with Log Cabin Republicans. Senator John McCain (R-AZ) met with LCR on November 8, and defended it on CBS-TV's Face the Nation, saying he believes "strongly in the party of Abraham Lincoln, and the Log Cabin Republicans are part of our party." Steve Forbes said on CNN's Late Edition that he, too, would be open to meeting with LCR.

Ammiano Earns Victory Fund Endorsement

An announcement made by the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund stated its endorsement of Tom Ammiano in his bid for Mayor of San Francisco. If Ammiano prevails at a December 14th run off election, he would become the first openly gay mayor of a major U.S. city.

Ammiano entered the race less than three weeks before the November 2nd election as a write in candidate. Ammiano came in second, ahead of former Mayor Frank Jordan & several other contenders. According to the November 15th issue of the San Francisco Examiner, Ammiano garnered 25.1 percent of the votes while Brown got 38.8 percent. By holding to less than 50 percent of the vote, Ammiano forced the run-off.

In addition to the support Ammiano is receiving, the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund also supported his successful candidacies for city supervisor. Ammiano was a driving force behind domestic partnership legislation, requiring contractors to offer the same benefits to those of domestic partnership as they do for spouses of married workers.

In addition to The Victory Fund, Ammiano has been endorsed by SF's Harvey Milk GLBT Democratic Club, the SF chapter of the League of Conservation Voters, SF Tomorrow, an environmental & urban planning group, as well as many other organizations and businesses.

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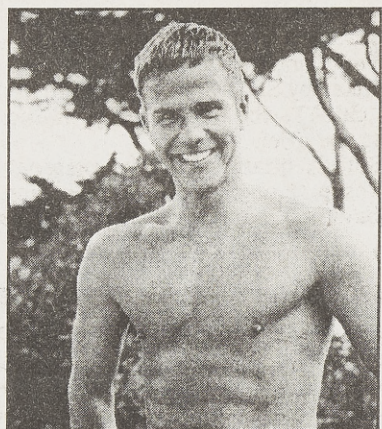
PRINTING EXCELLENCE FOR SACRAMENTO'S GAY & LESBIAN COMMUNITY

The Bolt To Host Bare Chest Calendar Winners

For the third year, The Bolt at 3560 Boxwood St., will host the men of San Francisco's South-of-market Bare Chest Calendar for a charity fund raising event on Saturday, December 4, at 9 p.m.

The first calendar of the new millennium is full color, larger in format (12 inches x 12 inches) and was shot entirely by nationally-known photographer James Scott Geras.

Carl Battles, the first Sacramento man ever to appear on the calendar, is featured as Mr. April. Battles and other calendar men will sell and autograph calendars and raffle prizes. Proceeds from the event will benefit Beaking Barriers of Sacramento and the S.F. AIDS Emergency Fund.



Carl Battles at the S.F. Bare Chest Calendar Men on December 4 at The Bolt.

Sierra AIDS Council Volunteer Training Planned

The Sierra AIDS Council is offering a Free Volunteer Training to individuals who would like to work with the Sierra AIDS Council. Sierra AIDS Council Office, at 1168 Booster Way, behind the Angels Camp Swimming Pool. Saturday January 22, 2000, from 9am to 5pm. Info: 209-754-6792.

1999 CMEN Gathering

CMEN, California Men Enjoying Naturism, has just completed the 1999 West Coast Gathering, the largest gay nude gathering ever held on the west coast.

More than 200 men, enjoyed numerous activities including rope courses, tantric massage, safe sex workshops, swimming, and other athletics, plus social activities with talent shows, body painting contests, and disco and square dancing. Attendees expressed great satisfaction with the event and the opportunities for male bonding, education, intimacy, and the enjoyment of nature with like-minded men. More than 70 having pre-registered for next year's gathering.

The next event, the gay nude West Coast Gathering 2000, is scheduled for September 11 - 17, 2000, in Malibu, California. For further information, contact CMEN at 1-877-429-6368 or on the Internet at www.CommunityVisions.org/CMEN

A Little Holiday Fun Sung to the tune of "My Favorite Things" (from The Sound of Music)

Big dykes with small dogs and butches with kittens;
Diesels in tall boots with chains on their mittens;
Femmes in their lipstick with rings in their nose;
These are a few of the gays that I know.

Men who can cook and make great apple strudels;
Women who think and can sure use their noodles;
Some who like dressing in black leather clothes;
These are a few of the gays that I know.

Men in tight dresses with gold lame sashes;
Makeup and high heels and long false eyelashes;
Men who have muscles and men who wear hose;
These are a few of the gays that I know.

REFRAIN:
When the right wing
Spews its hatred
And it makes me sad,
I simply remember the gays that I know
And then I don't feel - - - so bad.

Doctors and nurses and students and teachers;
Soldiers and singers and actors and preachers;
Lawyers who fight in the courts with our foes;
These are a few of the gays that I know.

Nieces and uncles and sisters and brothers;
Parents who live with significant others;
Brave sons and daughters who let their love show;
These are a few of the gays that I know.

Young politicians with courage and vision;
Leaders with guts who can make a decision;
Those in the closets and those on the go;
These are a few of the gays that I know.

REFRAIN:
First Anita,
then it's Limbaugh,
It just makes you mad,
But always remember the gays that you know
And then you won't feel - - - so bad!

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Producer Resigns From The Millennium March on Washington

It is official: Robin Tyler has left her position as executive producer of the Millennium March on Washington (MMOW), an event she first suggested at the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's (NGLTF) Creating Change conference held in San Diego, November 1997. The march is scheduled for April 2000, although opponents say it should be postponed or canceled because of nonsupport and lack of accountability by organizers.

Tyler, although leaving, disagrees: "I will be going on to other things but still would like to encourage people to support this march, as it is a very important march."

Ann DeGroot, the designated spokesperson for MMOW Board of Directors, said she would not talk about the conference or agreement terms until after the press release was issued.

Last week the Times reported

that it had information that a tentative agreement included among other things an indemnity clause to hold Tyler harmless in the event of future third-party claims against her actions as an agent of MMOW; payment to Tyler of almost \$35,000, a figure that includes payment of back wages, October's salary of \$8,300 and a \$10,000 settlement; and transfer of ownership of equipment from the MMOW office to compensate for wear and tear on Tyler's equipment.

Problems between Tyler and the Board came to a head in the Sept. MMOW Board of Directors meeting in New Orleans. There, it was decided to have new board member Malcom Lazin resign that position and become an interim executive director, placing him in charge of Tyler.

According to Tyler, her book- ing of speakers and entertain-

ment without Board approval caused the problem. She said she felt her contract, valued at \$100,000 a year, gave her the authority. The Board disagreed. To counter that, the Committee is in Oakland, Calif., to coincide with NGLTF's 1999 Creating Change Conference, where several thousand activists will gather.

The NGLTF has not endorsed the MMOW, and, in fact, Executive Director Kerry Lobel resigned from the MMOW board last April over concerns about the value of the march and lack of financial accountability. Dobbs said the meeting will not just be about the march, but also a bigger discussion about the direction the GLBT movement is going. "The march is just the tip of the iceberg," he said. "This is how a lot of business is done." Meaning, a lack of community input.

Bereavement Group Starting

Have you lost a partner to Cancer or AIDS? A psychotherapy and support group is forming to assist Gays & Lesbians in working through the pain of loss. The group will be co-facilitated by Sandra Warne, LMFT, and Judith Hime-Everschor, M.A., LMFT, who treats clients dealing with issues, related to illness and grief.

Both facilitators also have personal experience in dealing with losses through death of a loved one. The group will be held Tuesdays, 11:30am-1pm. Info: 1-800-332-8531, or 568-1025. ▼

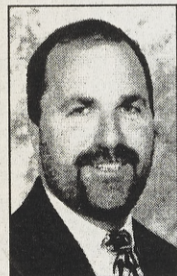
Fundraiser At Garbeau's Dinner Theater

On Sunday evening December 5th, at 7:30 pm, River City MCC is having a fundraiser with a live concert at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre "Everyday People", featuring Prentice Millers, Songs That Make Your Heart Sing, a collection of songs from the 1960's. Tickets \$10 for the concert only, \$15 for Box Supper & Concert. Info: 985-6361. ▼

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Matthew Shepard's Father -- Closing Remarks To The Jury

Your Honor, Members of the Jury, Mr. Rerucha, I would like to begin my statement by addressing the jury. Ladies and gentlemen, a terrible crime was committed in Laramie thirteen months ago. Because of that crime, the reputation of the city of Laramie, the University of Wyoming, and the State of Wyoming became synonymous with gay bashing, hate crimes and brutality. While some of this reputation may be deserved, it was blown out of proportion by our friends in the media. Yesterday, you, the jury, showed the world that Wyoming and the city of Laramie will not tolerate hate crimes. Yes, this was a hate crime, pure and simple, with the added ingredient of robbery. My son, Matthew, paid a terrible price to open the eyes of all of us who live in Wyoming, the United States, and the world to the unjust and unnecessary fears, discrimination and intolerance that members of the gay community face every day. Yesterday's decision by you showed true courage and made a statement. That statement is that Wyoming is the Equality State, that Wyoming will not tolerate discrimination based on sexual orientation, that violence is not the solution.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have the respect and admiration of Matthew's family and friends and of countless strangers around the world. Be proud of what you have accomplished. You may have prevented another family from losing a son or daughter.

Your Honor, I would also like to thank you for the dignity and grace with which this trial was conducted. Repeated attempts to distract the court from the true purpose of this trial failed because of your attentiveness, knowledge and willingness to take a stand and make new law in the area of sexual orientation and the 'Gay Panic' defense. By doing so, you have emphasized that Matthew was a human being with all the rights and responsibilities and protections of any citizen of Wyoming. Mr. Rerucha took the oath of office as Prosecuting Attorney to protect the rights of the citizens of Albany County as mandated by the laws of the State of Wyoming, regardless of his personal feelings and beliefs. At no time did Mr. Rerucha make any decision on the outcome of this case without the permission of Judy and me. It was our decision to take this case to trial just as it was our decision to accept the plea bargain today and the earlier plea bargain of Mr. Henderson.

A trial was necessary to show that this was a hate crime and not just a robbery gone bad. If we had sought a plea bargain earlier, the facts of this case would not have been known and the question would always be present that we had something to hide. In addition, this trial was necessary to help provide some closure to the citizens of Laramie, Albany County and the State. I find it intolerable that the priests of the Catholic Church and the Newman Center would attempt to influence the jury, the prosecution and the outcome of this trial by their casting and persecution of Mr. Rerucha

and his family in his private life, by their newspaper advertisements and by their presence in the courtroom. I find it difficult to believe that they speak for all Catholics. If the leaders of churches want to comment as private citizens, that is one thing. If they say that they represent the beliefs of their church, that is another. This country was founded on separation of church and state. The Catholic Church has stepped over the line and has become a political group with its own agenda. If that be the case, treat them as a political group and eliminate their privileges as a religious organization.

My son, Matthew, did not look like a winner. After all, he was small for his age—weighing at the most 110 pounds and standing only 5'2" tall. He was rather uncoordinated and wore braces from the age of 13 until the day he died. However, in his all too brief life, he proved that he was a winner. My son, a gentle caring soul, proved that he was as tough as, if not tougher than, anyone I have ever heard of or known. On October 6, 1998, my son tried to show the world that he could win again. On October 12, 1998, my first-born son, and my hero, lost. On October 12, 1998, my first-born son, and my hero, died. On October 12, 1998, part of my life, part of my hopes and part of my dreams died, 50 days before his 22nd birthday. He died quietly, surrounded by family and friends, with his mother and brother holding his hand. All that I have left now are the memories and the mementos of his existence. I would like to briefly talk about Matt and the impact of his death. It's hard to put into words how much Matt meant to family and friends and how much they meant to him. Everyone wanted him to succeed because he tried so hard. The spark that he provided to people had to be experienced. He simply made everyone feel better about themselves. Family and friends were his focus. He knew that he always had their support for anything that he wanted to try.

Matt's gift was people. He loved being with people, helping people and making others feel good. The hope of a better world, free of harassment and discrimination because a person was different, kept him motivated. All his life he felt the stabs of discrimination. Because of that, he was sensitive to other people's feelings. He was naive to the extent that, regardless of the wrongs people did to him, he still had faith that they would change and become 'nice'. Matt trusted people perhaps, too much. Violence was not a part of his life until his senior year in high school. He would walk into a fight and try to break it up. He was the perfect negotiator. He could get two people talking to each other again as no one else could. Matt loved people and he trusted them. He could never understand how one person could hurt another, physically or verbally. They would hurt him and he would give them another chance. This quality of seeing only good gave

him friends around the world. He didn't see size, race, intelligence, sex, religion or the hundred other things that people use to make choices about people. All he saw was the person. All he wanted was to make another person his friend. All he wanted was to make another person feel good. All he wanted was to be accepted as an equal.

What did Matt's friends think of him? Fifteen of his friends from high school in Switzerland, as well as his high school advisor, joined hundreds of others at his memorial services. They left college, fought a blizzard and came together one more time to say goodbye to Matt. Men and women coming from different countries, cultures and religions, thought enough of my son to drop everything and come to Wyoming—most of them for the first time. That's why

this Wyoming country boy wanted to major in foreign relations and languages. He wanted to continue making friends and, at the same time, help others. He wanted to make a difference. Did he? You tell me.

I loved my son and, as can be seen throughout this statement, was proud of him. He was not my gay son. He was my son who happened to be gay. He was a good looking, intelligent, caring person. There were the usual arguments and, at times, he was a real pain in the butt. I felt the regrets of a father when he realizes that his son is not a star athlete. But it was replaced with a greater pride when I saw him on the stage. The hours that he spent learning his parts, working behind the scenes and helping others made me realize he was actually an excellent athlete, in a more dynamic way, because of the different types of physical and mental conditioning required by actors. To this day, I have never figured out how he was able to spend all those hours at the theater, during the school year, and still have good grades.

Because my job involved lots of travel, I never had the same give and take with Matt that Judy had. Our relationship, at times, was strained. But, whenever he had problems we talked. For example, he was unsure about revealing to me that he was gay. He was afraid that I would reject him immediately so it took him a while to tell me. By that time, his mother and brother had already been told. One day, he said that he had something to say. I could see that he was nervous so I asked him if everything was alright. Matt took a deep breath and told me that he was gay. Then he waited for my reaction. I still remember his surprise when I said "Yeah? Okay, but what's the point of this conversation?" Then everything was okay. We went back to being a father and son who loved each other and respected the beliefs of the other. We were father and son but we were also friends.

How do I talk about the loss that I feel every time I think about Matt? How can I describe the empty pit in my heart and mind when I think about all

the problems that were put in Matt's way that he overcame. No one can understand the sense of pride and accomplishment that I felt every time he reached the mountaintop of another obstacle. No one, including myself, will ever know the frustration and agony that others put him through, because he was different. How many people could be given the problems that Matt was presented

with and still succeed, as he did? How many people would continue to smile, at least on the outside while crying on the inside, to keep other people from feeling bad? I now feel very fortunate that I was able to spend some private time with Matt last summer during my vacation from Saudi Arabia. We sat and talked. I told Matt that he was my hero and that he was the toughest man that I had ever known. When I said that I bowed down to him out of my respect for his ability to continue to smile and keep a positive attitude during all the trials and tribulations that he had gone through, he just laughed. I also told him how proud I was because of what he had accomplished and what he was trying to accomplish. The last thing I said to Matt was that I loved him and he said he loved me. That was the last private conversation that I ever had with him.

Impact on my life? My life will never be the same. I miss Matt terribly. I think about him all the time—at odd moments when some little thing reminds me of him; when I walk by the refrigerator and see the pictures of him and his brother that we've always kept on the door; at special times of the year like the first day of classes at UW or opening day of sage chicken hunting. I keep wondering almost the same thing I did when I first saw him in the hospital. What would he have become? How would he have changed his piece of the world to make it better?

Impact on my life? I feel a tremendous sense of guilt. Why wasn't I there when he needed me most? Why didn't I spend more time with him? Why didn't I try to find another type of profession so that I could have been available to spend more time with him as he grew up? What could I have done to be a better father and friend? How do I get an answer to those questions now? The only one who can answer them is Matt. These questions will be with me for the rest of my life. What makes it worse for me is knowing that his mother and brother will have similar unanswered questions.

Impact on my life? In addition to losing my son, I lost my father on November 4, 1998. The stress of the entire affair was too much for him. Dad watched Matt grow up. He taught him how to hunt, fish, camp, ride horses and love the state of Wyoming. Matt, Logan, Dad and I would spend two to three weeks camping in the mountains at different times of the year—to hunt, to fish and to goof off. Matt learned to cook over an open fire, telling fishing stories about the one that got away and to drive a truck from my father. Three weeks before Matt

went to the Fireside Bar for the last time, my parents saw Matt in Laramie. In addition, my father tried calling Matt the night that he was beaten, but received no answer. He never got over the guilt of not trying earlier. The additional strain of the hospital vigil, being in the hospital room with Matt when he died, the funeral services with all the media attention and the protesters, as well as helping Judy and me clean out Matt's apartment in Laramie a few days later, was too much. Three weeks after Matt's death, Dad died. Dad told me after the funeral that he never expected to outlive Matt. The stress and the grief were just too much for him.

Impact on my life? How can my life EVER be the same again? When Matt was little I used to take showers with him, just to teach him not to be scared of the water. Later, Matt helped me do the same thing with Logan. Anyway, Matt and I would be in the shower spitting mouthfuls of water at each other or at his mother, if he could convince her to come into the bathroom. Then he would laugh and laugh. We would also sing in the showers. I taught him the songs "Row, Row, Row Your Boat", both "Brother John" and its French version "Frere Jacques" and "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Matt would sing loud and clear. Now that voice is silent, the boat has sunk, Jacques is no longer Frere and the little star no longer twinkles. Matt officially died at 12:53 AM on Monday, October 12, 1998 in a hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado. He actually died on the outskirts of Laramie, tied to a fence that Wednesday before when you beat him. You, Mr. McKinney, with your friend Mr. Henderson, killed my son. By the end of the beating, his body was just trying to survive. You left him out there by himself but he wasn't alone. There were his lifelong friends with him—friends that he had grown up with. You're probably wondering who these friends were. First, he had the beautiful night sky with the same stars and moon that we used to look at through a telescope. Then he had the daylight and the sun to shine on him one more time—one more cool, wonderful autumn day in Wyoming. His last day alive in Wyoming. His last day alive in the state that he always proudly called home. And through it all, he was breathing in, for the last time, the smell of Wyoming sage brush and the scent of pine trees from the Snowy Range. He heard the wind—the ever present Wyoming wind for the last time. He had one more friend with him. One he grew to know through his time in Sunday School and as an acolyte at St. Mark's in Casper as well as through his visits to St. Matthew's in Laramie. He had God. I feel better, knowing that he wasn't alone.

Matt became a symbol—some say a martyr, putting a boy-next-door face on hate crimes. That's fine with me. Matt would be thrilled if his death would help others. On the other hand, your agreement to life without parole has taken yourself out of the spotlight and out of the public eye. It means no drawn out appeals process, no chance of walking away free due to a technicality and no chance of a lighter sentence due to a 'merciful' jury. Best of all you won't

See Shepard, continued on pg. 9

SPEAK OUT

Shepard's Father Speaks

continued from pg. 8

be a symbol. No years of publicity, no chance of a commutation, no nothing- just a miserable future and a more miserable end. It works for me. My son was taught to look at all sides of an issue before making a decision or taking a stand. He learned this early when he helped campaign for various political candidates while in grade school and junior high. When he did take a stand, it was based on his best judgement. Such a stand cost him his life when he quietly let it be known that he was gay. He didn't advertise it but he didn't back away from the issue either. For that I'll always be proud of him. He showed me that he was a lot more courageous than most people, including myself. Matt knew that there were dangers to being gay but he accepted that and wanted to just get on with his life and his ambition of helping others. Matt's beating, hospitalization and funeral focused world-wide attention on hate. Good is coming out of evil. People have said "Enough is enough."

You screwed up, Mr. McKinney. You made the world realize that a person's lifestyle is not a reason for discrimination, intolerance, persecution and violence. This is not the 1920's, 30's and 40's of Nazi Germany. My son died because of your ignorance and intolerance. I

can't bring him back. But I can do my best to see that this never, ever happens to another person or another family again. As I mentioned earlier, my son has become a symbol- a symbol against hate and people like you; a symbol for encouraging respect for individuality, for appreciating that someone is different, for tolerance. I miss my son but I'm proud to be able to say that he is my son.

Mr. McKinney, one final comment before I sit and this is the reason that I stand before you now. At no time since Matt was found at the fence and taken to the hospital have Judy and I made any statements about our beliefs concerning the death penalty. We felt that would be an undue influence on any prospective juror. Judy has been quoted by some right wing groups as being against the death penalty. It has been stated that Matt was against the death penalty. Both of these statements are wrong.

We have held family discussions and talked about the death penalty. For example, he and I discussed the horrible death of James Byrd, Jr. in Jasper, Texas. It was his opinion that the death penalty should be sought and that no expense should be spared to bring those responsible for this murder to justice. Little did we know that the same response would

come about involving Matt. I, too, believe in the death penalty. I would like nothing better than to see you die, Mr. McKinney. However, this is the time to begin the healing process. To show mercy to someone who refused to show any mercy. To use this as the first step in my own closure about losing Matt.

Mr. McKinney I am not doing this because of your family. I am definitely not doing it because of the crass and unwarranted pressures put on by the religious community. If anything, that hardens my resolve to see you die. Mr. McKinney, I'm going to grant you life, as hard as it is for me to do so, because of Matthew. Every time you celebrate Christmas, a birthday or the fourth of July, remember that Matthew isn't. Every time you wake up in that prison cell, remember that you had the opportunity and the ability to stop your actions that night. Every time that you see your cell mate, remember that you had a choice and now you are living that choice. You robbed me of something very precious and I will never forgive you for that. Mr. McKinney, I give you life in the memory of one who no longer lives. May you have a long life and may you thank Matthew every day for it. Your Honor, Members of the Jury, Mr. Herucha

Thank you.
Alan Shepard,
Father of Matthew Shepard ▼

NEWS BYTES

SF Weekly Scrutinizes Ammiano Coverage

In the November 10 San Francisco Weekly, editor John Mecklin addresses a pattern of media stereotyping in the coverage of the upcoming December 14th runoff election between incumbent San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and openly gay Board of Directors President Tom Ammiano.

Mecklin's focus is on San Francisco-area coverage that seems to be playing up Ammiano's sexual orientation as a way to trivialize his candidacy. In coverage of Mayor Brown, Mecklin asks if the Examiner and the Chronicle would similarly tolerate treating race as an issue in the campaign. "Ammiano has been a major public figure here for years now," Mecklin observes. "(Y)et the local press seems to find it necessary to describe him as a gay former comedian in every daily election story, even though the same press finds it (quite properly) unnecessary to describe Brown as a former black lawyer."

Clearly, the residents of San Francisco deserve election coverage that deals with the candidates position on policy and city administration -- not innuendo and excessive emphasis on sexual orientation. ▼

Journal of Country Music Explores Industry's Last Taboo

Doug Stevens. Alix Dobkin. Patrick Haggerty. Pamela Brant and many others are part of the small, nearly invisible community of lesbian and gay artists in the country music industry. In the November issue of Journal of Country Music, editor Chris Dickenson traces the history of gay and lesbian artistry and activism in a genre that has historically been hostile toward same-sex couples and relationships.

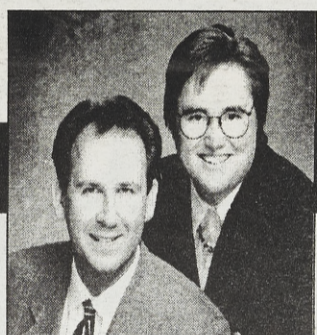
The lengthy Journal article profiles both members of LGCMA and many of the lesbian and gay pioneers in the country music industry, gives long-overdue visibility to these overlooked members of the country music community. Please thank the Journal of Country Music for this comprehensive, breakthrough feature. ▼

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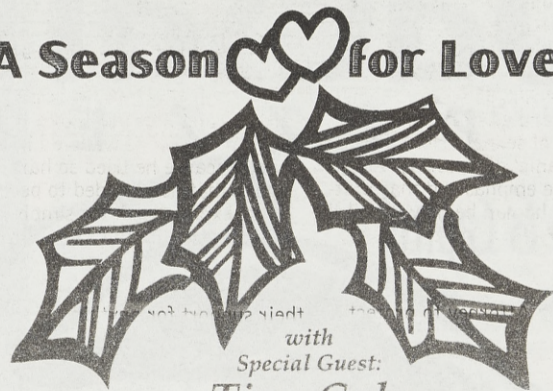
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Holidays Are

By Randy Hartley
MGW/Staff

Holidays shine brightly. Hanukkah Menorahs, Christmas Trees and sparkling Champagne lighting our way to the New Year. Holidays are occasions that join old friends, new friends and family, bringing us together to share traditions, good times and, of course, good food. As holidays anchor our lives so does what we cook and eat for those celebrations connect us to them over the years.

HANUKKAH...

Among Jewish holidays, Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, is one of the happiest. Commemorating the defeat of Antiochus of Syria by the Macca bees over two thousand years ago, it also celebrates the mir-

acle of the synagogue lamps, which burned for eight days and nights on a one-day supply of oil. The menorah, one new candle of which is lit each night of the

eight-day holiday, symbolizes the miracle, as does the tradition of serving the potato pancakes called latkes and dessert fritters.



CHRISTMAS...

Christmas is such a jam-packed holiday that it can seem like a years worth of good times, all rolled up in about two dazzling weeks. Sacred and secular, solemn and merry, it is the ultimate celebration, a glittering whirlwind of parties and meals, large and small. A happy and sometimes slightly exhausted glow of satisfaction is the mark of a successful host, one who has entertained with style and grace, sharing the good time with loved ones and friends while loving it all. In merry old England there is the traditional Christmas Goose.

Here we prefer a standing rib roast, turkey or ham. My favorite recipe for a Standing Prime Rib Roast follows:

STANDING RIB ROAST

Serves 6 to 8

1 cup flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
1 tablespoon paprika
4 minced garlic cloves
1 3 or 4 pound rib roast, trimmed of excess fat; feather bone and ribs loosened and tied in place (your butcher can help with the preparation before roasting)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Combine flour, salt, pepper, paprika and garlic.

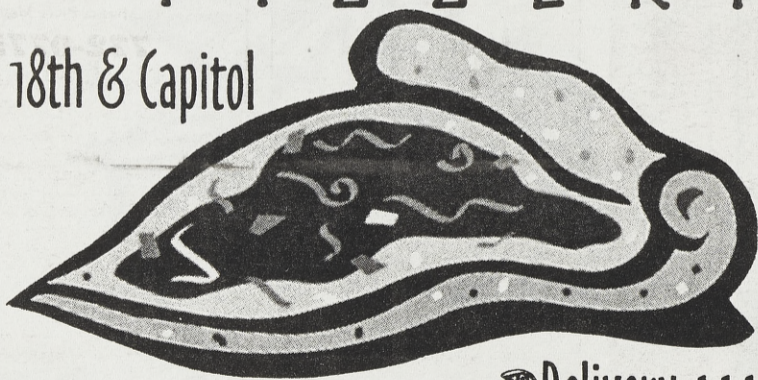
Rub roast completely with this mixture. Place roast fat-side up in shallow roasting pan. A rack is not necessary since bones form natural rack. Insert meat thermometer into the thickest part

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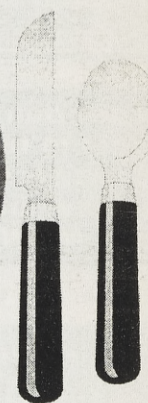
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of roast, make sure tip does not touch bone.

To determine roasting time:
Very rare -- 96 15 to 17 minutes per pound or 130 degrees F on thermometer.

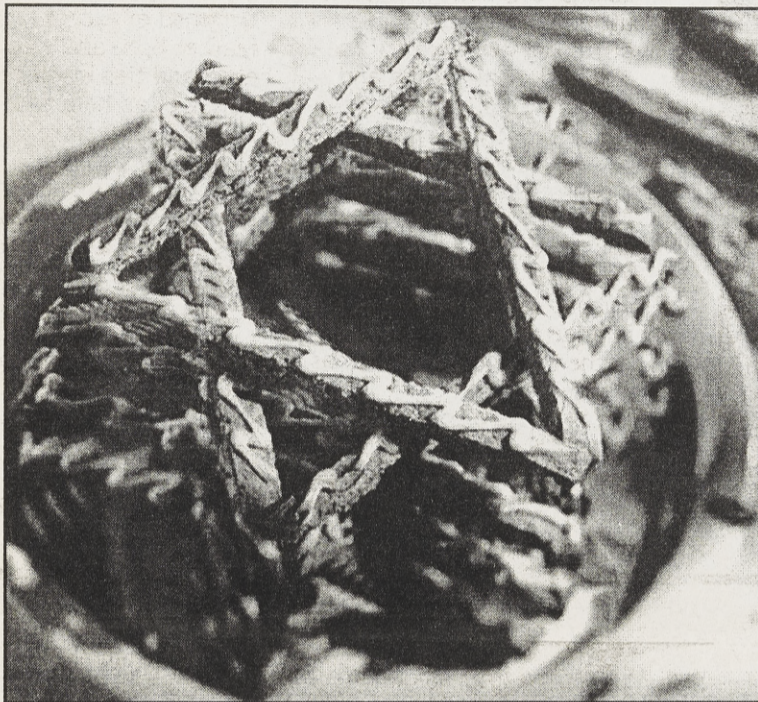
Medium rare -- 96 18 to 20 minutes per pound or 150 degrees F on thermometer.
Well done -- 22 to 28 minutes per pound or 165 degrees on thermometer.

When desired doneness is

reached, turn heat off, leave oven door ajar and allow meat to rest 20 minutes, or if oven is needed for another purpose, remove roast and let stand in a warm place near the oven. (This makes carving easier, and fewer juices will run out onto the platter so the meat will be more succulent.) Cut strings, and serve with Horseradish Sauce.

Note: I find that if you cook the roast to 130 degrees, keep it warm and finish your other accompaniments (approximately 30 minutes) that the roast is a perfect medium rare when dinner is served.

French onion soup and/or a crisp green salad with garlic mashed potatoes, a vegetable and Yorkshire pudding served with a California Merlot or Zinfandel would be perfect accompaniments.



NEW YEARS EVE...

Year's end is a mystical time, loaded with significance. Pegged to the very rotation of the planet around the sun, New Year's Eve can hardly be dismissed as just another excuse to party.

As the solar system turns silently, some sort of celebration seems inevitable and human. If it has been a good year, we naturally want to send it off in style; if not so good, we also dance and laugh to forget the old and mightily hope for better in the new.

New Year's Eve can be spent in a solitary and contemplative way, but most of the time, counting down the start of 365 unknown days ahead we prefer to take strength in numbers.

If you make only one resolution this year, make it one you're going to like keeping. How

about resolving to gather you're nearest and dearest around you more often? As midnight strikes, 2000 will bring in another year of good times with good friends! Best wishes for happy holidays!

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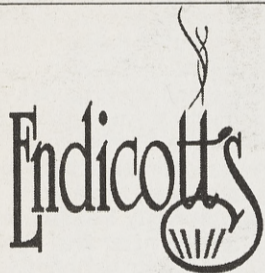
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Boys in the Band

By Stefan Gruenwedel,
MGW/Staff

FIGHT CLUB. Starring Brad Pitt, Edward Norton, and Helena Bonham Carter. Directed by David Fincher. (140 min.; rated R but should be NC-17)

Chuck Palahniuk, author of the novel "Fight Club," on which this film is based, feels bad that today's world largely has little need for men to behave as men. According to him, "We are a nation of physical animals who have forgotten how much we enjoy being that. We are cushioned by this kind of make-believe, unreal world and we have no idea what we can survive because we are never challenged or tested."

I'm sure a lot of women would tell him to stop whining and get a life.

Instead of joining the Foreign Legion or living with an indigenous tribe that still hunts with spears, Palahniuk wrote this novel in which "white-collar slaves" are set free by fighting with each other in a very orchestrated manner. Apparently war really can set you free.

Edward Norton plays an office worker who works so hard, flies around the country on business so much, and has become such a catalog-purchasing consumer that he has lost touch with what it feels like to be alive. His doctor says he cannot prescribe him anything for his "boredom," except to attend a self-help group of victims of testicular cancer to see in others what it's really like to suffer.

Attending one rap group leads to another, and another—eventually becoming addictive, because the feelings he gets from them (even though he's not at all "supposed" to be there) makes him feel more alive than ever. As he puts it, people really start to listen to you when they think you're gravely ill or dying.

On one fateful business trip, he sits next to Tyler Durden (Pitt), a soap maker and seller. But this is no ordinary natural-products producer; he's a living-on-the-edge he-man who has his own way of thinking. To him, people are not "a beautiful and unique snowflake." Self-improvement is masturbation; self-destruction might be

the answer. That's probably why he smokes so much—even though that makes him a pawn of tobacco interests and their multimillion dollar marketing campaigns. Oh well, it's hard to be a perfect revolutionary these days.

He persuades Norton one day to hit him—hard—so he can know what it's like to feel something. It works: he hits, and Tyler hits back. Both feel better

say this at all, of course, but the imagery is clear. These men want to involve themselves with each other in intimate ways, because modern life doesn't allow them to. They want to experience a rush—with men, not with women. They could go to a gay sex club for this exhilaration, but for the fact that they're straight. So why not beat each other up to get close instead?

Fight Club appears to be an equal-opportunity slugfest (there are whites, Asians, and blacks), but men who don't fit the straight, virile mold are punished. Despite all the beatings that take place, only two men are permanently affected. A platinum blond "pretty boy" (Jared Leto) is disfigured in a fight that gets out of control; and a large man (Meat Loaf) who sports breasts due to hormone imbalances after testicular cancer is slain by police during one of their "missions." It may be subtle, but these events smack of smear the queer. In Hollywood you still have to pay a price if you are a sissy. (All the other men apparently recover from their repeated fights without serious repercussions. Isn't that nice?)

To reinforce his heterosexuality, Tyler has loud, bed-pounding sex all night long with Norton's suicidal sort-of friend, Marla (Bonham Carter), whenever she comes over to their grubby house. At least they use condoms.

From the opening credits onward, FIGHT CLUB is saddled with sound effects and visual sequences—some of them quite brilliant (in a "Matrix" sort of way). It's too bad the movie's violence overshadows these interesting scenes. There's actually some artistry underneath all the tough-guy shenanigans.

I'm hardly a cinematic prude, but this film is too violent. Some violence is necessary to sustain the plot, of course, but after one fight scene too many, it becomes clear that two-thirds of the violence could have been edited out while retaining the story line, maintaining the energy level, and improving the running time. As it is, you want to walk out of the theater and take a break. This isn't entertainment; this is an ordeal.

FIGHT CLUB currently plays in Sacramento at Century Stadium 14. There is an official Web site but it's visually busy and uninformative:

www.foxmovies.com/fightclub/.



Brad Pitt and Edward Norton define masculinity on their own terms in FIGHT CLUB.

and the Fight Club is born. More men join their secret club so they can pummel each other and feel better for it. Tyler says, "It's only after you've lost everything that you're free to do anything." In other words, when you're desperate, you will succumb to any "enlightening" cult that comes your way, no matter what the price.

And Tyler is the epitome of the cult leader. Handsome, well-spoken, virile, and tough as nails, Tyler is everything that Norton's character is not. He's also not what he says he is. Let's just say he's Norton's alter-ego and leave it at that.

Tyler's cult—headquartered in a dilapidated Victorian house in an industrial part of town—infiltrates metropolitan America's service industries (from limo drivers to restaurant staff to security personnel). His scheme is to blow up credit card companies and credit agencies and wreak havoc on corporate America in general and commercialism in particular.

Is there any point to this movie? It's hard to say. Some men may feel validated in some weird way; others may feel ashamed of the way this film portrays men's apparent needs. This is probably not a good date movie, especially if you're straight.

Or gay. What the movie's Fight Club really showcases is straight men's fear of latent homosexuality. The film doesn't

LAWNMOWER MAN

THE STRAIGHT STORY. Starring Richard Farnsworth, Sissy Spacek, and Harry Dean Stanton. Directed by David Lynch. (112 min., rated G)

A small chuckle arose from the audience when I went to see this movie. For obvious reasons, it seemed just too incongruous to see "Walt Disney Pictures Presents" and "Directed by David Lynch" in the same opening credits. Needless to say, this David Lynch film is even rated G.

All kidding aside, this "G" should stand for good. David Lynch has crafted a simple, satisfying tale that marches to its own irreverent beat. Yes, it's a story for grownups and children alike, but it's also a study in meditation and patience—with a reward that's worth the wait.

Based on true events, THE STRAIGHT STORY concerns the 260-mile trek that 73-year-old Alvin Straight took in 1994 from Laurens, Iowa, to Mt. Zion, Wisconsin, to see his 75-year-old ailing brother, Lyle. Thing was, Alvin could not drive a car, yet he didn't want anybody to help him make the trip. His only solution was to take the family lawn mower and rig it with a trailer so he had a place to sleep en route.

In the movie, everybody he knows—from his buddies at the Ace Hardware store to his live-in daughter—thinks he's nuts to try this trip on his own. For him, it's a mission. Alvin's past haunts him. Troubled years before by his drinking, he is now sober and wants to make amends with Lyle (Harry Dean Stanton), who recently suffered a stroke.

The actual trip proceeds surprisingly easy. Despite heavy rains at times, and trucks that honk loudly and rush closely by (he rides on the shoulder), he makes the five-mile-per-hour journey on his '66 John Deere with little difficulty.

Part of the reason things go smoothly is because the people he meets along the way are so darn nice and harmless. From a runaway girl to a fellow World War II soldier, Alvin chats them up and tells them stories about his past that they can identify with. Alvin is a simple man and his stories are also simple, but they contain deep truths that

impact their lives. The folks Alvin meets are so natural, it's hard to believe they are acting.

If THE STRAIGHT STORY has one flaw, it may be that Alvin seems to meet only nice people who seem to be helped by their interaction with this crazy lawnmower man. (He doesn't run into any thugs or drunk drivers.) That may be the film's "Disney touch," but it's certainly appropriate for this film, despite—perhaps—its unbelieveability.

After waiting for something bad to happen, you realize that nothing like that ever will.

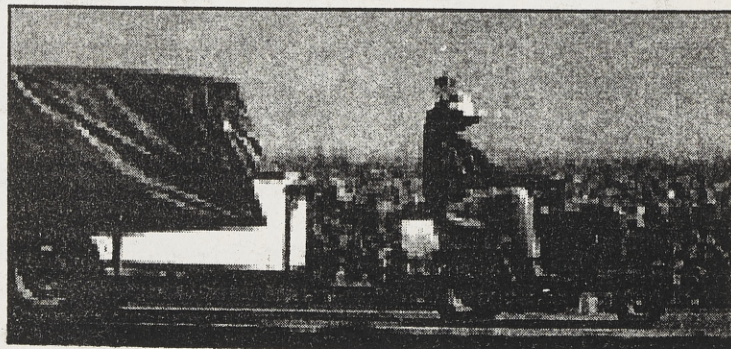
Whether the real Alvin Straight, who died in 1996, made this kind of impact on the strangers he came across is probably debatable. The real Alvin became a media figure of sorts, as more and more people learned of his eccentric trek. He apparently was not (for long, at least) a stranger atop his riding lawnmower.

Given the relative lack of action in this film, THE STRAIGHT STORY advances the six-week journey with repeated aerial views of cornfields growing and being harvested. Many of them are taken seemingly near sunset, so they glow with a golden luminescence that's spectacular. These shots appear again and again, simultaneously expanding time as well as causing it to sit still.

Also nice are those times when Alvin interacts with another person in the distance. These scenes are shot from far away, with natural sound, so the voices are faint, though discernible. It distances the scene from the audience and reinforces the notion that we are just observers, not overly attached to the protagonist.

The supporting characters are marvelous, and add much humor to the film. Alvin's somewhat-mentally-challenged daughter, Rose, is played expertly by Sissy Spacek, who gives her character real dimensionality, despite her relatively small role.

THE STRAIGHT STORY currently plays in San Francisco at Landmark's Opera Plaza Cinemas. Its Sacramento engagement didn't last long, but watch for it in video stores. You can get more information about the movie at its official Web site: www.straightstory.com.



Richard Farnsworth plays Alvin Straight, a man who rides his lawn mower hundreds of miles to visit his ailing brother, in THE STRAIGHT STORY.

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Gerald Semas
MGW Staff

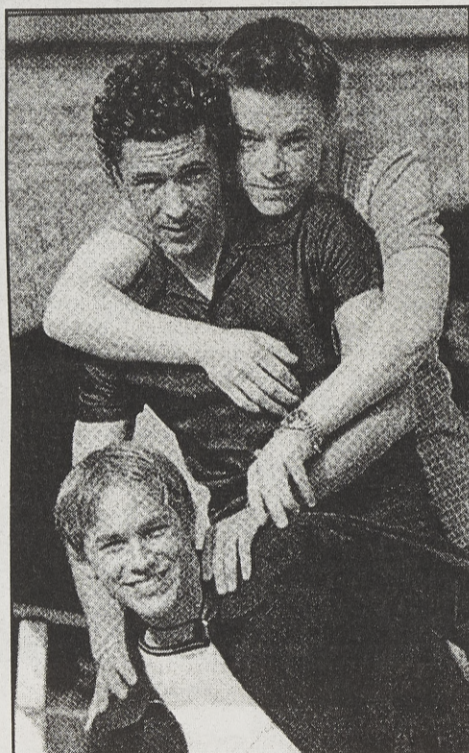
FILM

A certainty for Oscar nominations, the Dec. 10th opening of *The Cradle Will Rock* brings THE movie to see in the weeks ahead. This latest work from actor/director Tim Robbins is based on the real life story of the Federal Theatre's efforts to stage the musical *Cradle Will Rock* during the depression. The theater and its famous ensemble, consisting of Orson Welles, John Houseman and Diego Rivera, fight against the oppressive spectre of censorship in this faithful retelling of an over-looked part of American history. The impressive cast includes Bill Murray, Vanessa Redgrave (Wilde), Joan Cusack (In & Out), Angus MacFadyen (The Lost Language of Cranes), Hank Azaria (The Birdcage) and Robbins' real-life partner Susan Sarandon (Thelma & Louise). ttt

Tom Hanks (Philadelphia) goes behind prison wall for his new picture *The Green Mile* which is based on the Stephen King novel. The Dec. 10th release was directed by Frank Darabont who, not a stranger to the world of incarceration, previously helmed *The Shawshank Redemption*. The project is being promoted with the phrase "Miracles happen in the most unexpected places." No, that's not the Publishers Clearing House slogan! The film is described as a docu-drama about prison guards on death row and the events leading to the execution of an innocent man affect them. Joining Hanks in this ensemble cast are David Morse (Twelve Monkeys), Bonnie Hunt (Jerry McGuire), James Cromwell (RKO 281), Michael Jeter and Gary Sinise. ttt

Neve Campbell's brother, Christian Campbell (Trick) is

in an unusual holiday offering, the Dec. 14th release of *Cold Hearts*. This independent vampire tale focuses on a sensitive girl vampire who hangs out at the New Jersey boardwalk, lives in an apartment and procures blood through not so deadly means. I was wondering what *Promise Keepers* have been up to lately. Though destined to be compared to *The Lost Boys*, the contemporary horror thriller features music by



The British cast of "Queer As Folk"

Soundgarden, has a number of special effects and a strong love story. ▼▼▼ It's not a sequel to *Boogie Nights* (Thank God) though you could call it a reunion. Writer Director Paul Thomas Anderson has brought together a group of his *Boogie Night* alumni for his

latest picture *Magnolia*, coming Dec. 14. That includes Julianne Moore, William H. Macy, Alfred Molina and Philip Seymour Hoffman. Sorry, no Mark Wahlberg. Other cast members include Tom Cruise as a soulless motivational speaker, Melinda Dillon (To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar) and Laugh-In vet Henry Gibson playing a character named Thurston Howell. The project has moments of humor

but is both profound and disturbing. Some are comparing it to Altman's *Short Cuts* and Kasden's *Grand Canyon* as the film explores the lives of a number of different characters living in the San Fernando Valley.

On Dec. 17th, audiences will see the eagerly awaited Bicentennial Man from director Chris Columbus. Based on a story by Isaac Asimov, this sci-fi drama is being touted as the most powerful heart tugging film of the season. The story can be called a modern updating of *Pinocchio* as it follows the 200 year journey of a robot to become human. Robin Williams (The Birdcage) plays Andrew Martin, a man of tin who learns more and more of what it means to be truly human. Preview audiences have been astounded by the special effects and the way the filmmakers have made Williams into a robot. The cast also features Sam Neill (Restoration), Oliver Platt (Three to Tango), Wendy Crewson (Better Than Chocolate) and Embeth Davidtz (Schindler's List). ▼▼▼

SF's Castro Theatre will offer a collection of a dozen short films with Gay and Lesbian themes, titled *Love Reinvented* Dec. 10 - 16. The program comes from the French short film program *L'amour est a Reinventer*, still being shown in Paris, though was enhanced with two additional films for its US Tour. Seen at SF, LA and NY Gay Film Festivals, the collection has received praise from coast to coast.

Among the collection are films titled *Pregnant or Lesbian*, *Tears of AIDS*, *An Ordinary Night* and *Close To* starring Alexis Arquette. ▼▼▼

THEATRE

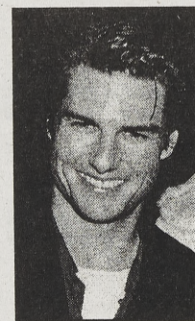
Across the Atlantic, Nigel Hawthorne (The Object of My Affection) has the title role in the Royal Shakespeare Company's latest outing of *King Lear*. The unique angle to this staging

is that it is a co-production between the RSC with Thelma Holt and the Sainokuni Shakespeare company of Japan. Having debuted at the Barbican last month, the play moves to the Stratford for its final run Dec. 3 - Feb. 26, 2000. ▼▼▼ Erica Kane makes her Broadway debut. Well, sort of. It has been confirmed that Susan Lucci (All My Children) will replace Bernadette Peters in the Broadway hit revival of *Annie Get Your Gun* for three weeks over the holidays. Lucci becomes the gun-toting Annie effective Dec. 23 through Jan. 16, 2000. Perhaps a move to Broadway a few years ago might have garnered that frequently sought after Emmy. ▼▼▼

The New Conservatory Theatre has the San Francisco premiere of *Who's Afraid of Edward Albee* for the holiday season. Written by actor/playwright Michael Kearns, the play explores efforts to stage an all-male production of Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf* and the author's efforts to stop such attempts. The show runs Dec. 11 through Jan 22, 2000. ▼▼▼

TELEVISION

Though the final episode of *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys* should be airing in syndicated markets this week. Fans haven't seen the last of the son of Zeus. Kevin Sorbo will guest star as Hercules on *Xena: Warrior Princess* when the mighty Amazon finally gives birth in February. ▼▼▼



Tom Cruise

January brings the premiere of a new all Soap Opera program channel called 'SoapNet.' The Disney/ABC Cable Networks owned channel will feature reruns of *Ryan's Hope*, *Knot's Landing*, *Falcon Crest*, *Hotel*, *Sisters* and *The Colbys*. The network will also be anchored with same-day repeats of *All My Children*, *General Hospital*, *One Life to Live* and *Port Charles*. Great news for those of you who could never

get the timer to work on your VCR. SoapNet will compete directly with SoapCity, also bowing in January, which will re-broadcast NBC and CBS daytime dramas at night. ▼▼▼ One more bit of Soap Opera news, fans of the recently canceled *Soap Sunset Beach* have only weeks left to enjoy their show. The series final episode will air on December 31. Oh well, there's always *Baywatch* for doses of scantily clad sand lovers. ▼▼▼

Best known for his work on *My So-Called Life*, thirty-something, Scott Winant has three shows in the works for three different networks. The former exec producer of the too short-lived *Cupid* is creating *Wonderland* (No relation to *Wasteland*) a comedy-drama about soap operas, for CBS. Over at FOX, he is developing *Present Tense* about the daily activities at a Chicago humor magazine. For NBC, Winant has the appropriately titled and Southern set romantic comedy, *Sherman's March* which focuses on fueding North Carolina ad agencies. ▼▼▼ Showtime is trying to secure the US rights to the successful and controversial British Telly series *Queer as Folk*. There is talk of Gay director Joel Schumacher helming this Americanized version of the original which is now in its second season in the UK. For those unfamiliar with the program, it explores the Gay relationship between a 29 year old man and his 15 year old lover. Of course a US version will have to increase the teenager character's age to, say, 45? The British version actually features three lead Gay roles, Vince who feels like he's been in love with Stuart all his life though the two haven't been intimate with each other, Nathan who sleeps with Stuart the first time they meet and falls in love with him and Stuart who runs from the word commitment as if it were fire. ▼

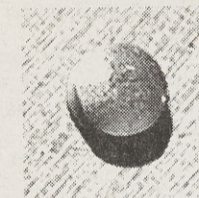
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Reverend Jim Hopkins to speak on "Authoritarian vs. Humanitarian Religion"

Reverend Jim Hopkins, pastor of Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, shall be the featured guest at a public Hanukkah and Christmas season reception hosted by the Rainbow Governmental Concerns Committee on Wednesday, December 8, 6:30-8:00pm at La Fogata Sports Grill; 2301 Willow Pass Road @ Colfax in downtown Concord. RSVP to 925.210.0563 or

RainbowGov@aol.com; Reverend Hopkins plans to discuss Authoritarian versus Humanitarian Religion. Hopkins became a pastor of Lakeshore Baptist in 1989.

It is this mission and the church's desire to be a welcoming and affirming Baptist congregation to all, which has

engendered the ire of and sanctions against the church by the state and national Baptist assemblies. The Rainbow Governmental Concerns Committee was created as a committee to provide pertinent education and information regarding governmental issues of general and specific concern to the extended gay/lesbian community.

This is the sixth in a series of public events designed to challenge, entertain, and inform, by introducing divergent personalities with varied backgrounds, careers and opinions to, the greater community of Contra Costa County and especially the Rainbow Community for the purpose of fostering a heightened awareness of community. ▼

Republican's Oppose Protections!

The National Stonewall Democratic Federation (NSDF) is calling attention today to an article in the conservative magazine, The American Spectator, which graphically illustrates the difference in the position of the two major parties on extending hate crimes legislation to protect GLBT people.

The author of the article, Daniel Troy, was a witness who testified against the extension of hate crimes, and the article makes clear that support for the extension came exclusively from Democrats on the Judiciary Committee while all the Republicans who attended and spoke out were in opposition. Mr. Troy notes in his article that "hate crime legislation, of course, is a pet issue with Democrats." In contrast, Troy points out; "Hyde did not want hate crime legislation, which he opposes, to gain political momentum."

Bolstering his point about the partisan nature of the issue before the Judiciary Committee, Troy notes that "four of (the) witnesses, invited by Democrats, favored hate crime legislation," the other five witnesses--- whom he refers to as Republican witnesses -- all opposed it.

In fairness to the Republicans, it should be noted that Troy writes the article in part to criticize them because their opposition to hate crimes, while unanimous, was not effective. First he notes that "a phalanx of approving Democrats, 14 of whom (out of 16 on the committee) would remain present for most of the day long hearing," while "by contrast, only 11 out of 21 Republican committee members ever showed."

In addition to objecting to the failure of the Republicans to press their opposition more vigorously, Troy criticized the efforts by the Republican Member, Congresswoman Mary Bono, who most actively spoke out in opposition

to the notion. Referring to her as "the only Republican to direct hostile questions to any Democratic witness other than (Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder)," Troy lamented that in her hostile questioning of Tony Orr, who was testifying as a victim of a hate crime who had received inadequate attention from the Prosecutor, "Bono proved to be out of her depth." After summarizing the exchange in which Bono tried to discredit Orr.

In his article, Troy notes that anti hate crimes questioning of Republican members George Gekas and Charles Canady, and laments the pro hate crime legislation fervor of Representatives Jerry Nadler, Barney Frank, Maxine Waters, Sheila Jackson Lee, and John Conyers.

Anyone who doubts that there has been strong Democratic support for extending hate crime legislation to protect people based on sexual orientation and that this legislation has been defeated by overwhelming Republican opposition should read this article in the American Spectator.

The National Stonewall Democratic Federation is the only national organization of GLBT Democrats. With 45 affiliated clubs, Stonewall has more than 10,000 members. NSDF is committed to educating voters about the vast difference that exists between the two major parties on issues of importance to our communities.

Mayoral Candidate Supervisor Tom Ammiano Joins Metropolitan Community Church Ccongregation To Honor Homeless Advocate Sister Bernie & Lesbian Pioneers Phyllis Lyon & Del Martin

Following her arrest for serving food to the city's poor, hungry and homeless, Sister Bernie Gavin one of San Francisco's most beloved homeless advocates will be honored for her dedication and compassion at the Sunday evening service at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco. Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin two living legends of the contemporary lesbian movement, and representatives of the Lyon/Martin Clinic, a provider of services for women, will also be honored. Joining them will be Tom Ammiano President, SF Board of Supervisors and a candidate for San Francisco mayor.

SISTER BERNIE

Sister Bernie was arrested last Monday (11/1) for serving food in San Francisco's Civic Center to people who have no home. Because she served the food she was held in jail throughout the night and through the following day. Finally at 7 pm, she was finally released from her jail cell.

Significantly, Tuesday was Election Day and though charges were dropped at 10:00 a.m., she was held for no reason until just one hour before the polls closed. Though, with minutes to spare, she voted, her effort to get others out to vote was blocked. At this service Sunday night, Sister Bernie will announce her plans to begin a hunger strike in front of Mayor Willie Brown's office on the steps of the San Francisco City Hall on Monday, November 8. This will dramatically raise the stakes relating to Mayor Brown's treatment of the homeless. Her plan directly confronts what many people of faith have described as "spiritual violence" against the poor, the hungry and the homeless.

TOM AMMIANO

This will be one of Supervisor Tom Ammiano's first major community appearances since he was declared the candidate to face Brown in the December run off election. The Sunday evening Metropolitan Community Church service, one of the largest weekly gatherings in the Castro, will provide Ammiano the opportunity to give the community an analysis of his candidacy.

The Lyon Martin Clinic, one of San Francisco's first and most

prominent clinics to provide health services to women, has recently experienced severe financial problems. For the last several weeks, Rev. Jim Mitulski, the church's Senior Pastor, has created a plan for men to provide donations to help this clinic. "This is our opportunity, as gay men, to say thank you for the sensitivity and the compassion which we have received from the women in our community," said Mitulski. PHYLIS LYON AND DEL MARTIN Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin will accept the check from the men of the church. Martin and Lyon are founders of Daughter of Bilitis, the

organization that is the foundation of the contemporary lesbian movement.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO

Co-Pastors of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco are Rev. Jim Mitulski and Rev. Penny Nixon. Assistant Pastor is Rev. Karen Foster. With over 500 members, it is one of San Francisco's largest and most active churches. The Sunday evening service is another example of how the church has served the spiritual needs of San Francisco's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people for over 30 years. ▼

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"Wozzeck" At The San Francisco Opera

By Wayne R. Anderson
MGW/Staff

In 1921 a half-crazed barber named Johann Christian Woyzeck murdered his mistress for which he was eventually executed. The avant-garde playwright Georg Buechner read the newspaper report of the case and began a play based on it.

In this piece Buechner painted an extremely grim picture of human society, in which the strong and clever ruthlessly exploit the helpless. This view of humanity was in marked contrast to the ennobling image prevalent in such works of the then-current Romantic movement as Schiller's "Ode to Joy" set by Beethoven as the final movement of his ninth symphony.

After completing 25 scenes, Buechner died of typhus in 1837 at the age of 23, leaving the manuscript in a shambles. For nearly a century this grisly play lay forgotten, as if awaiting an artistic environment more receptive to its message. That period arrived with German Expressionism in the twentieth century, a movement embraced by artists such as Arnold Schoenberg, Berthold Brecht, Kurt Weill, and Alban Berg. Berg saw the play in Vienna in 1914, immediately recognized its operatic potential, and set to work. The result was "Wozzeck," one of the operatic masterpieces of this century.

Franz Wozzeck, an inarticulate army barber, has a child by his common-law wife Marie, for which his captain smugly condemns him. A doctor is using Wozzeck as a guinea pig to try out a diet for which he hopes to become famous: he has Wozzeck eating only beans. Meanwhile Marie

is openly having an affair with a drum major. Driven to desperation, Wozzeck takes Marie for a walk near a lake and stabs her in the throat. Returning later to retrieve the knife, he drowns, leaving the child alone in the world.

Berg's musical idiom is ideal for the opera; it is nearly impossible to

the distraught Marie seeks consolation in reading the Bible to her child, only to find that its words heighten her guilt. Effective as the music is, it is definitely not bel canto. Even though this opera has been around for three-fourths of a century, it still assaults the ears of some listeners, causing a few of the musi-

them. Berg's opera speaks directly to these conditions. At one point when the Captain is admonishing Wozzeck for his low morals, the barber tells him plainly that (loosely translated) "Poor people like us need money. If I were a gentleman, then I would also be virtuous. But I am just a poor

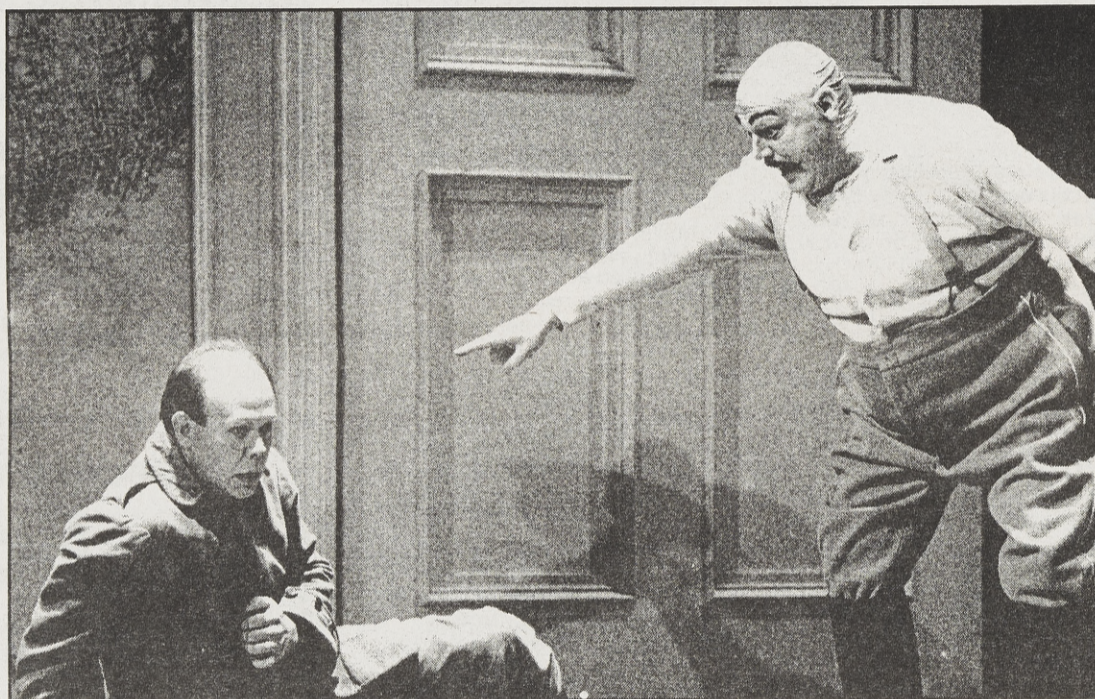
crete staircase that slices the stage diagonally in half). Conductor Michael Boder maintained a relentless pace and brought thunderous effects from the orchestra, yet drew out hushed playing in the tender scenes involving Marie and her child. The opera was given without intermission, greatly enhancing the inexorable build up of the tragedy.

Baritone Alan Held, in his first Wozzeck, played the man as excessively stupid and superstitious. Wozzeck is uneducated, but I do not think he is so stupid. He is the only person in this dark opera who speaks sense, such as his recognition that the poor need to worry first about getting enough to eat before they can be concerned with the high-sounding morals of the well-to-do, or by doubting that God would ignore his child just because he and Marie did not say "I do" before conceiving him.

Mr. Held almost made the character a parody at times. If there is one thing that Wozzeck does not need, it is to be overplayed. Hildegard Behrens was riveting as Marie, revealing a strong complex woman who took control of her own life, at times callously disregarding Wozzeck but then later giving in to guilt and insecurity. Her powerful soprano shot securely into the house, but she also had tender moments with her child.

Kenneth Riegel was fascinating as the smugly moral Captain as his tenor ascended into a neurotic falsetto. As the Doctor (he of the bean diet), Michael Eder's underpowered bass got swallowed up in the thick orchestration.

Mark Lundberg's Drum Major was a sex machine, and the rest of the cast made fine contributions to this excellent performance.



Wozzeck (Alan Held) is tormented by the Captain (Kenneth Riegel) in Alban Berg's *Wozzeck*, in San Francisco

imagine any other style being suitable. The score is atonal --- not a 12-tone piece in which a series of 12 different notes (the tone row) forms the musical basis --- but rather it eschews the standard keys and musical intervals of earlier music. It makes great use of dissonance, jarring percussion, fragmentary musical themes, and instruments playing at the extremes of their range, yet it has many hauntingly ethereal passages as well. The vocal line relies heavily on "sprechstimme," in which words are spoken forcefully to a specific musical pitch.

But tenderness is also present, especially when

cally conservative to jump ship part-way through the SFO performance.

Can such a depressing work speak to us amid the economic prosperity of the 1990s? Consider these items reported recently in the newspapers. The U.S. has over a million people in prison, most of them lower class males. Nearly a third of California children under age five live in poverty. As homeless people become ever more visible, we try to banish them from sight, practically making it illegal to be without a home. The stress under which such people live would be unbearable to most of us, as it is to

soul." The world of Wozzeck and Marie can be found in far too many American cities.

In this 1990 Lotfi Mansouri production, the front of the stage is filled by the angled walls of a huge brutal skyscraper (something that would be right at home in downtown Sacramento), tilting dizzily upward and framed in blood red. These walls move quickly aside to accommodate the many scene changes. The overall mood suggests a menacing world (nightmarish trees in the swamp where Marie is murdered) in a callously inhuman society (stark metallic army barracks; a great black con-

A Nose For News

Beware of pig ears, says the FDA, or at least wash your hands after touching one. At least 30 people in Canada may have been infected with Salmonella from dog chews. In September, the Transportation Department fined America West airlines \$1,000 for moving a blind passenger and her seeing eye dog from their first-class seats because another first class passenger refused to sit next to the animal. According to Transportation Department rules, travelers have the right to bring service animals on planes and the animal must be accommodated near the passenger. If another passenger objects, the carrier must outline the disabled passenger's rights and find another seat for the objecting passenger. If that isn't acceptable, the airline can remove the objecting passenger from the flight.

A recent PETSMART survey found these fun facts about pet owners: 31% have taken a day off from work to be with a sick pet, 79% sleep with their pets, 27% celebrate their pets birthday with a party, and 23% choose "pet friendly" vacations. Only 23%?

Here is just one clever sample from a collection of Canine Christmas carols with dog lyrics (sing to the tune of "White

Christmas"):
I'm dreaming of slow squirrel
One I could catch and make my toy
Or a lovely shoe
That I could chew
Would add greatly to my joy

Do your dog a winter favor. Spend a minute reading through the tips at the AKC's site. You may not realize some things, like this: "Your dog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer. Snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water." www.akc.org/love/dah/candt/winter.cfm

The Senate passed an amendment requiring airlines to implement procedures to protect animals traveling by air. The amendment in corporate's S. 1193, which Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-N) introduced in June, into the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization bill. The amendment requires airlines double the liability for animal injury or death, requires reporting and notification of animal accidents and requires retrofitting of cargo holds to better protect animals. Congressman Robert Menendez (D-NJ-13) introduced a companion

bill in the House of Representatives. The House passed the FAA reauthorization bill without the pet travel provision, so a conference committee will decide whether to leave this provision in the final bill. Authorities at Boston's Logan Airport said an Irish wolfhound freed itself from a kennel during a July United Airlines flight to San Francisco and gnawed into wires for the Boeing 767's landing gear, its cockpit warning lights and others that slowed the plane upon landing, by extending its wing flaps. The plane did land safely. The airline is still investigating how the dog got loose. Luggage handlers reported that when they opened the cargo door, they found the dog wagging his tail apparently eager to disembark.

Swedish researchers have concluded a study indicating that early exposure to dogs & cats may protect people against asthma and allergies later in life. Dr. B. Hesselmar, of the University of Goteburg, and colleagues noted in May issues of Clinical & Experimental Allergy, that those exposed to pets during the first year of life had a lower frequency of allergic rhinitis at age 7 to 9 years and of

asthma at 12 to 13 years. Good ammunition for bringing pets to the upcoming holiday family get-togethers.

Gather your dogs around the computer and howl up a storm. www.ddc.com/waggers/carols.html



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EDITORIAL

One of the many letters we get from religious right readers, the following marked up version of our October 1, 1999 MGW cover and a seven page letter on the left, arrived earlier last week. The writer, a woman named Diane, wanted to inform us that we did not understand the Bible.

Ms. Birner,

I'm writing to you to tell you that you and your staff should be embarrassed about the amount of errors you allow to be printed in your publication.

Enclosed is the front page of your October 1st issue. It made me sick that any child could walk past the newsstand and read your comments about what the Bible supposedly says, and then believe it.

you people clearly do not read the Bible. And if you do, you interpret it to fit your agenda. The comments on the front page were laughable, especially regarding "David + Jonathan" and "Ruth + Naomi."

I sent the enclosed front page to a friend who has studied the Bible inside and out, and knows much more about the Bible than you and your staff. You will see some of the comments I made, and my friends answers to my questions written in dark blue.

The Bible doesn't distinguish male homosexuals over female homosexuals—like some lesbians like to think. It's a perversion in God's eyes no matter if you're male or female.

you can also look up Corinthians
ch. 6, verses 9+10, which clearly
states that homosexuals (among
other kinds of sinners) will "not
inherit the kingdom of God."

you can ignore all this, and
I'm sure you will. But I'm not
"Bible-thumping" to say, that I'm
better than you. We're all "sinners"
and God loves all of us. But
I can't sit back and say nothing
when people torture Scripture and
Re-write it to serve their own
agenda.

I have sexual limitations placed on me by God, too, which is also stated in Leviticus. I can't go around screwing my father or my brother or my son or my uncle. As a straight person, I could have relations that God would find detestable, too. So I don't do it. I also can't screw my best friend's husband just because I feel like it or it's what I want for myself. That would be against

is stupid and redundant. Hark, 5
you ever heard of a "love-crime"?
All crimes are done out of hate.
Why is it that the murder of a
homosexual or a black guy carries
more weight in society than, say,
the murder of the homeless guy
down the street? I don't get it.

When poor Matthew Shepard was killed, it was all over the newsstands for months. But what about that 12-year-old boy who was sodomized to death by 2 gay guys? That story was barely in the news. No one I talked to even heard about it. Why is Matthew Shepard's murder more tragic than that 12-year-old boy's?

I am for ^{some} gay rights. But I am against special rights for gays ^(some, not all) ~~or anyone else~~. I have found that gays want special rights, not just equal ones. For example, if we were both up for the same job, you should get the job only if you're more qualified, not because you were gay and the company had to meet a quota.

I know I got off the initial

does God "bless" homosexuality!
Ruth and Naomi were not lesbians
and David + Jonathan were not
gay. Nice try, though. The comments
written by my friend tell the
true story of who these people
were. Read also her comments about Sodom +
you people are way off on that, too. Gomrath,

"Your paper also states that Jesus never once mentions homosexuality." Well, His Bible sure did, which He held up as the Word of God and from which he constantly quoted. I'm talking about the Old Testament! That was His Bible! And in Leviticus (chapter 18, verse 22) it clearly states that God finds homosexuality "detestable". That was part of Jesus' Bible that He regarded as the Word of God. Gee whizz, Jesus never once mentions that that passage is to be ignored.

You also have the New Testament written by the apostles themselves whom Jesus taught and told to spread His message. Look up Romans ch. 1, verses 26-27, which speaks against both lesbians and gays. Homosexuality is what it is no matter if you're a man or a woman.

Sure I'm going to "sin" because I'm not perfect. But I'm going to constantly strive to be right with God no matter how imperfect I am. I'm not going to try to rewrite the Bible or invent my own God to feel better about how I choose to live.

Your paper also states that 30% of teen suicides are gay-related. So, what's your point? I've had 2 suicides in my family that were drug-related. Does that mean we should have given them a bunch of drugs and said it was okay to do it? Suicide is suicide whether you're gay or straight. If these people truly had God in their lives and were living for Him instead of ^{for} themselves, they would be alive today.

We all have crosses to bear.
The Bible says "Take up your cross."
Homosexuality is your cross to bear.
God puts all of us to the test.
You choose to follow His way or
your own. It's your choice.

I'm also sick of these "hate-crime" laws. The phrase "hate-crime" itself

subject. If you want to act out your homosexuality in spite of what God says, then do it. Again, that's your choice. I can't judge your soul, only God can. But I can tell you that you're sinning according to His Word, just like you can tell me I'm sinning if I go and have sex with my best friend's husband. Same thing in God's eyes. We all have restrictions placed on us by God. Homosexuals aren't the only ones.

But STOP trying to re-write
the Bible ^{to} fit your agenda. It's
pathetic. I wish homosexuals would stop trying
to re-write a Book that's thousands of years old and be
more honest and just admit
that it is against God, but that they
don't care and they're going
to do it anyway.

Stop printing lies about the Bible.
There's only one God and His
commands are clear throughout
the Bible.

You're an editor. You need to check out whether what you allow to be published is true or false. Your newspaper clearly does NOT know the Bible or how to interpret

ceramento puts out. ~~and I am not a~~
~~member of the~~ + curled some of the
written about the typed letter below that
says are bashing. Would you please write
back + answer my questions about them?

Coming Out With Pride

Monday, March 19

Dear Father Bouvier

Our son Todd, a student in your Christian Lifestyles class, came to us a few days ago extremely upset. Apparently you showed a film about homosexual teens called "Gay Youth," and assigned a book called "Coming Out: An Act of Love," which portrays homosexuals in a sympathetic light. We were speechless!

Insightful work by Rob Eichberg. Letters from gay fathers, gay mothers, gay sons, gay daughters.

about govt reports at least teens suicides are 9

What even?

Jesus
better
who
life for un
that
necessary?
Joseph
in friends
is that
that do
an out?
Yes, we
our friends.
one answer.
name & address.

How could you -- a Catholic priest -- assign such a piece of filth? We will not have our son exposed to a lifestyle that is unnatural and perverse. We believe in the Bible. Father, and the Bible clearly condemns homosexuality as "an abomination unto God." If you will check your Scriptures, you will see that homosexuality is condemned in both the Old and New Testament. No where does Scripture mention homosexuality.

The correct translation is "idolatry" not "abomination." As serious as eating pork!

Frequently the most outspoken homophobes
are in the closet!

If you must deal with the subject at all, why don't you show your classes the video "The Gay Agenda?" by Rev. Lou Sheldon. Although he is not Catholic, he does an admirable job in exposing the true agenda of the sodomites in this country, namely:

Jesus never
once mentions
homosexuality

to recruit our children! Homosexual organizations like NAMBLA make no pretense in
claiming they believe that men should be allowed to have sex with young boys. I am
disturbed by this notion, and ~~hasten~~ ^{hasten} ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~eye~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~we~~ ^{am} ~~are~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~blind~~ ^{am} ~~to~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{am} ~~problem~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am} ~~I~~ ^{am} ~~can~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{am} ~~see~~ ^{am} ~~it~~ ^{am} ~~is~~ ^{am} ~~clear~~ ^{am} ~~that~~ ^{am}

AMBLA is
not a gay
organization!

They are
adoptions --
5%
intersexual
and severely

will have no choice but to report you to the Archdiocese Office of Education and the
bishop. It is no accident that AIDS is predominately a homosexual disease. It is God's
punishment for this sinful lifestyle!

AIDS is not a homosexual disease!
It is not! It is a virus that can be
transmitted by many ways
including blood transfusion
and HIV drug sharing

Scripture will surely
condemn homo-
sexual behavior
but how a
man can out-
rightly be
because he
with HIV drug sharing

criticized by
Bryan and Clayton and Constance Martin
the gay community

It started as a gay disease. That's ^{the new} See Page 13 For More

**GAY MYTH # 9:
We want to convert your children.**

it. You people couldn't care less how you distort the facts, as long as it serves you.

If you want to "Come out with pride," then have enough pride to actually back up your agenda with facts, not lies and distortions.

In conclusion, I would also like to point out, the hypocritical, gay double-standard. You're so big on being "tolerant." But I don't see you being "tolerant" of people who disagree with homosexuality. It's okay for gays to disagree with "straight" people. But when "straight" people disagree with gays, they're automatically labeled as bigoted and hateful. Gee, that's real tolerant. We can disagree but still be respectful of each other. That's what's missing

If you get nothing else out of this letter, please get just this: Don't just print anything to suit your agenda. Make sure it's factual.

Sincerely,
Diane Gilbert

Acting With Compassion

Dear Diane,

We are in receipt of your letter dated 11/16/99. I have some thoughts I would like to share with you.

As gay and lesbian people, we do not "screw" our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters or children. The majority (95%) of pedophile crimes are committed by straight men. We do however, seek loving, committed, long term relationships with someone like us. Why are you so worried about who we sleep with? Is it possible for you to see people as people rather than who they sleep with? I strongly doubt if God really said that homosexuality was an abomination. After all, God is Love.

We all know that the Bible was created by fallible human beings - like yourself and the rest of us - and that these stories are just that: someone's interpretation of what happened many thousands of years ago. Someone's stories, many of which changed with each printing of the Bible...possibly could be fiction, possibly could be fact. Which version is the truth? Do we choose? How would we know? Faith? A lot of these stories were intended to keep a small majority of people in power, so the rest would cower under the threat of a vengeful God...thereby facilitating the collection of taxes. Pretty controlling. That small majority was fairly rich, as I remember. Then Jesus came and told the people he would save them if they followed him. War ensued as people bickered over the right path.

I honestly think Jesus was a great man and like Buddha & Ghandi, he had a vision of what could make society better. For the most part he enlightened a lot of people, although I wonder if we ever really got the message of unconditional love.

It saddens me to read the comments of your friend Joan who says that AIDS started as a gay disease through, as she puts it, "butt screwing". Or that "Lot was considered the ONLY righteous man in the city of Sodom and Gomorrah because he was married to a godly man who didn't screw people in the ass. Lot is the only one God saved. Doesn't that tell these idiots something?"...is there something I over looked in the Bible? Does it talk about Lots' sexual habits somewhere and I missed it? More-

over: a man married to a man, who happened to be the only one God saved? Interesting!

What bothers me is the tendency to take words from the Bible out of context. How you can possibly take these stories at face value and use them to serve your own fear is beyond me. It defies logic. If you travel at all, you will realize that the world is made up of many societies, with their own concept of God, who worship in different ways, have their own religious books, and feel just as strongly about their own belief systems as you do yours. Who is right? Which is the right religion? Do you think you know? Is religious Dogma really worth arguing about? Even when society was extremely isolated, the concept of one God has never worked: religious wars have been fought further back then I care to think about. So many people die arguing about God. Do you think this is part of God's plan? Isn't that about as far away from unconditional love and compassion as we can get?

This is the Millenium, and we as a society have grown intellectually by leaps and bounds. We recognize that there are many cultures with their own systems of beliefs. This adds a richness to the texture and fabric we call our world. (Native Americans see the world as a web of interconnected threads. What we do to one part of the web affects the rest.) The majority of us respect each others differences and the contributions we all bring to the planet.

I have never heard any gay or lesbian person express the desire for "special rights". Equal rights, yes. We are functioning, contributing members of society who simply happen to identify sexually with persons of the same sex. In addition, as tax paying members of society, we do, by law, have unalienable rights - deemed by the Constitution - which for some reason, in some people's minds, being gay seemingly negates our rights. This is so interesting to me since most gay and lesbians file their taxes as single people, thereby paying a lot more in taxes than their straight counterparts. On one hand, the straight world loves to use our money; while on the other, we are condemned by these same people and thought of as less because of who we sleep with. Go figure.

It seems to me that society

can't have it both ways.

As gay and lesbian people, we are doctors, lawyers, real estate agents, lenders of money, editors, judges, police men and women, firefighters, accountants, child care workers, teachers, massage therapists, artists, musicians, business owners, athletes, laborers, parents, friends...the list goes on and on.

We deserve the right to marry if we choose to, raise children, own homes together, contribute to the fabric of the world we live in and enjoy the quality of life our money helps our nation to enjoy.

Personally, my sexuality is the least remarkable thing about me. I do not have "LESBIAN" stamped on my forehead. I am a painter and graphic designer. I love to cook, garden, cycle, play tennis and golf; I am interested in the world and travel. I am monogamous. I have a solid relationship with my life partner. I do volunteer work. I am a parent of over 25 years. I have raised three children. I spent most of my free time with my children when they were younger. My oldest daughter is working towards her nursing degree (she's straight); my middle daughter speaks several languages, plays music, and dances (she's straight); my youngest, my son, is an excellent student, plays baseball, basketball, and mows the lawn for me on the weekends (also straight). As a family, we cook, do laundry, garden, clean the house, walk the dog, participate in school functions, interface with teachers, watch fireworks together on 4th of July and play chess together. We spend time with grandparents (they're straight, too). We sit down together at the dinner table and talk about our respective days. Pretty normal stuff. In my life experiences, many straight households do not have as much quality time as I do with my family. And I have to say that it shows: my children are tolerant, caring, loving, giving individuals. They realize that separatism is not healing, it is not how any God intended us to behave, and that hatred is not a family value.

I believe that with more and more people (straight or gay) raising children in this fashion, eventually the world will change for the better.

Most importantly, as a homosexual, **I AM NOT THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.**

In these United States we have something called **FREEDOM OF SPEECH**. This goes along with **FREEDOM OF THE PRESS**. It's in the Constitution. What happens before we exercise our Freedom of Speech, though, is **FREEDOM OF THOUGHT**. To me, this means that we all get to think for ourselves. Using our "God-given" brain, we interpret "facts" as you call them, individually. My idea of what the Bible says may be different than yours. Taking this a step further, this means that I can believe what I feel is true and live my life accordingly. So can you. And while you have a right to voice your opinion (as you did by writing this letter and as I do by working on this newspaper), you do not have the right to tell me what to do or what to think. No one, under the guise of a God (or church) has the right to dictate and manipulate laws or people. This philosophy is not unusual: it is supported by the Constitution of these United States, which guarantees a **SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE**...specifically included in this important document for issues like this, no doubt.

Now, Hate Crime laws protect not only gays and lesbians; but blacks, latinos, asians, native americans, jewish people, older adults, children and women such as yourself. Tell me that you would not want a hate crime law on the books if you were beaten and raped. Tell me that you would see that experience as God's will. Tell me that it's in God's plan for a black man to be dragged to his death - head severed from his torso. Tell me that Matthew Shepard deserved to be tied to a fence, beaten to near death and allowed to slowly die. Tell me that when a straight man beats his wife or kids that they deserve it, it's in God's plans.

With technology, the world is getting smaller and smaller. Face it, Diane, we all have to get along here on this planet. What is a better use of your time? To blame, condemn, fear, hate, accuse and perpetuate violence against one segment of society? Again, I strongly doubt if a loving God would approve, but does it make you feel better about yourself to think like that? Do you feel more right? Or is it a better use of time to help feed the hungry, comfort those sick or

in need, to live your life with as much compassion, integrity and love as possible? Far better to stick with our own sandbox, making sure it's in order before we start thinking about the order of someone else's sandbox.

My suggestion to you would be for you to not read our newspaper, since it obviously pushed buttons about your own sexuality. Don't travel, because you'll see people worshipping a different God in strange ways. Don't watch the world news, for you will see people different than yourself. Don't read anything other than your Bible, but definitely pick a version and stick to it. This will eliminate the stress you're feeling with regard to individuality and sexuality. Stay in your cocoon where it's safe.

Or...joyfully embrace the world as it is, and do your best not to personalize another's difference: it's not your responsibility to carry on someone else's moral or religious agenda. Make your own decisions based on a wide expanse of information. Education is the path to intellectual freedom. Love and compassion are the path to spiritual freedom.

In his book, "The Art of Happiness" the Dalai Lama says that "the purpose of our life is to seek happiness." He has a belief in the fundamental gentleness and goodness of all human beings, a belief in the value of compassion, a belief in the policy of kindness, and a sense of commonality among all living creatures. Not too far away from the teachings of Jesus.

He also states that compassion and love are the key elements to happiness. A good exercise is to imagine someone suffering, then put yourself in that person's shoes. Recognize that you could be that person suffering. Recognize that this person, as much as you, has a right to experience happiness, joy and lack of suffering. Then resolve to live your life with compassion, love and humanity so that all suffering can be replaced with joy and happiness.

As people, we choose to live in either Love or Fear. I feel it all boils down to that.

I choose Love.

Take care, Diane, and I wish you Joy and Happiness now and for the New Year.

---Elizabeth Fenimore

See "Letter from Diane" on page 20.

Sex and Gender Liberation Institute

continued from pg. 3

sound like one of those harrowing stories we've become so used to hearing during Coming Out Day observances. And it's so hypocritical. We now know that while he was leading the attack on Clinton's private sexual life, bringing the government of the most powerful nation to a halt, Newt Gingrich was boffing an aide. Committing adultery. Same with many of the prominent leaders of the Impeachment Brigade. They knew and tapped into a sex hysteria, a Puritanism that is very alive and well at this point in our history. Any of our cities or towns today, makes Salem and their infamous witch trials look quaint in comparison. Our leadership GLBT leadership and organizing cannot afford to continue to validate this.

If marriage is a good idea, let's achieve it honestly, and without having to closet ourselves to achieve it, at the expense of those among us who don't value monogamy. If we are to win workplace protections let's have them, as we are due by virtue of our job status, and not have to hide or deny our desires and sexual choices.

Let's not make the sexually generous among us into scapegoats about why we're not achieving freedom. Why we're not accepted. I'm

reminded of the Groucho Marx line about not wanting to be a member of a club that would accept him as a member. I don't want my freedom as a result of a deal where I have to behave like a nice little het. Not that there's anything wrong with them, but it's so dishonest and inhuman and degrading. Freedom, equality and dignity are not reserved for the good, white-picket-fence gays. They are indeed --- to borrow a slogan from one of the assimilationist publications--- For the Rest of Us. They're for ALL of us. Our detractors, our enemies --- to use a not-inappropriate term in this discussion--- see and define us by our sexual activity. That's their problem, their hang-up. Let's not take on that burden.

I can tell you from many sad experiences dealing with victims and survivors of violence and GLBT-related murder, that the perpetrators look at all of us as a gay. And it's our sexual activity --- or imagining it--- that drives them to brutality.

When we, as queer activists, join in and demonize those of us who participate in "bad" and "nasty" or "subversive" sex activity, we become complicit in the demise and death of all queer people and queer culture. When we make

judgements about proper sexual partners, we collaborate. When we castigate people for where and with how many people they chose to have and find sex, we become oppressors. When we denigrate sex providers and their clients we participate in our own ruin. Being sexual. Being promiscuous. Being desirous and erotic are natural states. For GLBT people, for all people.

I welcome this discussion here at Creating Change, and I thank the Task Force for providing this concentrated time to have the discussion, but we all need to go from here with a commitment to recognize that our sex and desire is not the problem. It is the world out there where the problem is, and it's totally fucked up thinking about fucking, sucking and cocks, dildos, porn, and desire (to name only a few things) that need to change.

Sodomy laws, discrimination, bashing, sex laws against the pursuit of adult consensual sex, commercial or otherwise these are what need to be stopped and be scrapped. When there is a healthier sexual environment, then true economic and social justice will be within reach. In the meantime, it's incumbent on us to be proud and open about sex. We can, indeed, teach the world.

ABC Cancels Wasteland

Creator/producer Kevin Williamson's television series Wasteland was officially cancelled, despite ABC's past assurances that the ailing series would be given a post-sweeps re-launch in December.

The Miramax Television drama featured Russell (played by Dan Montgomery), a closeted soap opera star who was one of only three gay leading characters on network TV this fall (the other two being Will (Eric McCormack) on NBC's Will & Grace and Ford (John Ducey) on ABC's Oh Grow Up). Williamson had even shot a same-sex kiss between Russell and his sports-writer boyfriend for a future episode which, due to the show's cancellation, will not be aired.

Pulpit Search of White Rock Community

White Rock Community Church of Dallas, Texas, the largest independent Christian church serving the gay and lesbian community is currently seeking a senior pastor. The new pastor for this theologically conservative church would believe in the inerrancy of scripture in its original form, the Trinity, the resurrection, and the Virgin birth. Info: 214-320-0288.

Six People Hurt When Bomb Hits Gay Bar In Cape Town

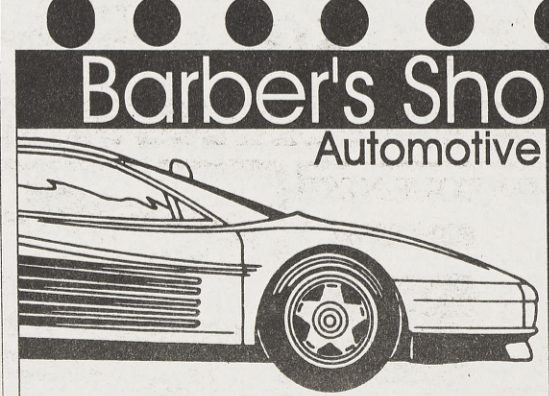
A bomb ripped through a gay bar in South Africa's main tourist resort of Cape Town, injuring six people. The explosion occurred in the early morning hours in the Greenpoint area of the city. This blast was the first in several months after a wave of bomb attacks on police stations, & other targets. Some attacks were attributed to militant Moslem vigilante group (People Against Gangsterism & Drugs), PAGAD. This organization has denied involvement and no member of the organization has been successfully prosecuted to this date.

See NewsBytes on page 23.




- 1 Hour Photos - 7 Days a Week
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from page 22

Toronto Starts Gay, Lesbian Scouts

A scouting troop for GLBT young adults has been set up in Toronto, apparently the first of its kind in North America. The 129th Toronto Scouting Group, which began meeting recently, is the same as any other troop except for the sexual orientation of its members, said troop co-founder Bonte Minnema.

Open to people aged 18-26 - a level of scouts called Rovers, the oldest group in the Canadian program - it describes itself as a GLBT troop.

Scouts Canada differs from its U.S. counterpart in being more decentralized, with McLaughlin describing it as a community-based, grassroots organization in which the national level exists to support the local troops.

In the United States, lawyers for the Boy Scouts of America have asked the Supreme Court to maintain the organization's ban on gays. The move follows an August decision by the New Jersey Supreme Court, which ruled that the Boy Scouts had illegally discriminated against an assistant scoutmaster dismissed because he revealed his homosexuality in a newspaper article.

Texas Men Challenge Ban

Two gay men arrested in their own bedroom appealed their conviction for sodomy on grounds it violated their rights to equal protection and privacy under the Texas and United States constitutions. John Lawrence, 56, and Tyrone Garner, 32, were each fined \$125 for violating a state sodomy law that prohibits oral and anal sex between same-sex partners. Sheriff's deputies entered the bedroom while investigating what turned out to be a false report of an armed man running amok at Lawrence's home.

Today 12 states still have sodomy laws that apply to both heterosexual and homosexual couples: Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia. Four states have sodomy laws that apply only to same-sex couples: Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

Garden Notes

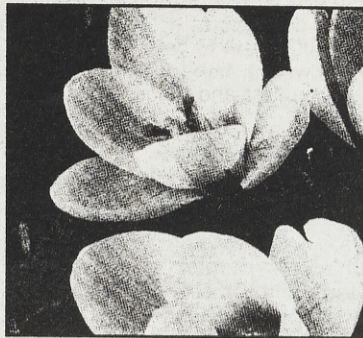
By Robert Harm

November and December are often thought of as dead months for gardening, but that really isn't true. While something's go dormant, others continue in bloom till near Christmas (unless we have freeze) and a whole group of plants are growing at this time of year. Winter annuals include pansy, primrose, calendula, poppy, California bluebell, and of course, California natives.

Winter perennials include cyclamen and Hellebore (The "Christmas Rose" & "Lenten Rose are common names for Hellebore). Both of these grow fall through spring and are more or less dormant in summer. By late December the first of the species crocus and Daffodils often put in an appearance. Planting of hardy material can continue as long as the ground is not frozen; fall planting and spring planting actually are one long planting season stretching from September through spring for most of the valley and foot-

hills unless we get really cold spell to interrupt it temporarily.

I'll be planting right through the winter so it will all be ready to explode into growth in spring.



Some special notes for this time of year: 1. Cloudy weather and/or fog are not rain. Unless we have regular soaking rain, con-

tinue at least one good watering each week for the yard (1" of water). Many plants dehydrate during the winter because the damp, foggy weather makes people think they don't need to water at all.

2. Even in rainy weather remember that potted plants under overhangs, patios, etc., still need watered. Not as often, true, but they don't get rained on, and are often forgotten and lost to dehydration.

3. Put materials to protect sensitive plants in case of freeze where it is easy to find and reach. After dark on a December evening is not the time to be

hunting for such items at the last minutes.

4. An exception to earlier comments: If storing tropical plants at lower temperatures (tropical hibiscus, dieffenbachia, etc.) remember that these items can not take cold (55-60 degrees) and wet at the same time. Tropicals' in warm weather like moisture but at colder, marginal temperatures become very subject to rotting of the roots and should be kept dryish.

An important fact at this time of year, often overlooked, is the angle of the sun. It is setting low in the sky causing long shadows and sending sunlight in under canopies (trees or artificial) facing south. The results can be several, including burning of sun-sensitive plants if too much sun is received; the early cessation of bloom on sun-lovers cast into shade (Canna is a good example); or the sudden burst of growth of many plants that were in heavy shade in June but are now getting several hours of sun (plants under the south side of trees).

Considering this is very important when planting, as some areas receiving winter sun will receive little or none in summer and the reverse of winter shade is often summer sun, especially on the north side of building trees.

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On the HIV front...

By Sonya Cox
AIDS/HIV Editor

HIV name reporting has little treatment impact...

Keeping records of people infected with HIV by name does not help or hinder treatment, and it does not improve contact notification, according to a recent University of San Francisco study. Name-based HIV infection surveillance has been implemented in 31 states, but it is a controversial topic. Studies on about 400 people with AIDS who were tested in five states that have name-based HIV surveillance showed no evidence that name-tracking swayed timely medical care to either side. The researchers concluded that both the negative and positive effects of name-based HIV surveillance may have been overstated by competing advocates.

Some drugs may cause heart problems...

People taking protease inhibitor therapy may be at risk for heart attacks -- four men between the ages of 35 and 44 have had heart attacks after two years of therapy. People with HIV often experience side effects such as diabetes and high cholesterol because of antiviral drugs. And, although no link has been proven, the high cholesterol some people are experiencing may be a source of the problem as it is a major risk factor for heart disease. Know what your cholesterol level is, and work closely with your physician to keep it as low as possible.

Health benefits expanded for people who work...

A bill expanding Medicaid and Medicare to allow people with disabilities to return to work without losing health insurance benefits. The House approved the bill 418 to 2, and the Senate is expected to pass it soon. One section of the bill provides Medicaid for workers who are not disabled but are physically or mentally impaired and expected to develop severe

disabilities without treatment. This could help people with HIV who have not yet developed symptoms, enabling them to get anti-HIV drugs through Medicaid while continuing to work.

Liver disease potential high with HAART treatment...

Liver disease was a leading cause of death among people hospitalized for HIV problems who have been on HAART (combination therapy that includes a protease inhibitor), according to a recent study at a Massachusetts hospital by Tufts University School of Medicine. Researchers found that people taking HAART were at risk for liver disease because of the multiple drugs' potential toxicity. The study compared the medical factors of people who died at the hospital in the year ending April 1999, to those who died in 1991, before combination therapy became the norm. The findings revealed that 50 percent of the 22 deaths among people in the 1998-to-1999 period were due to end-stage liver disease, compared to 15 percent of the 27 AIDS deaths in 1991, before HAART was available.

Home test kits warning...

Unapproved home test kits for HIV may be inaccurate, reminds the Food and Drug Administration and the Federal Trade Commission. Only one home test kit has been approved-- the Home Access Express HIV Test System from Home Access Health Corp. The Home Access kit requires people to take a blood sample at home and then mail it to a laboratory for testing, but home tests from other companies often promise more rapid results with saliva or blood from a finger prick. The results of these unapproved home test kits may not be accurate, the FDA warned.

Girl Scouts settle case...

The Girl Scouts have settled a complaint that the organization excluded a 9 year-old girl

from several troops in New York because she has HIV. While the group admitted no wrongdoing, the Scouts agreed not to bar girls in similar situations in the future.

Lamivudine and AZT risky mix for pregnant women...

Rapid resistance to HIV treatment lamivudine occurs when the drug is given in combination with zidovudine (AZT) to HIV-positive pregnant women, according to a recent trial in which 14 pregnant women received AZT and five HIV-infected pregnant women who were given both AZT and lamivudine. Both treatments produced viral load reductions and CD4 cell increases, but the women on the dual therapy saw greater reductions in viral load and larger increases in CD4 cell counts. The researchers note, however, that four of the five women receiving both lamivudine and zidovudine developed a mutation in the reverse transcriptase gene that is linked to reduced susceptibility to lamivudine.

Latest treatment information now online...

▼ New website from White House Office of National AIDS Policy addresses national and international issues.
<http://www.whitehouse.gov.ONAP>

▼ AmFar (American Foundation for AIDS Research) Treatment Directory, <http://www.amfar.org/td> is one of the nation's most comprehensive resources for HIV treatment info, is now available on line. It quickly discusses latest therapies, allowing health care providers and people with HIV to research experimental alternatives to approved treatment therapies with its clinical study search feature, an find trials by anonymously entering T-cell counts, viral loads, geographic location, and specific condition needing treatment. Other features include links to papers and abstracts on drugs, clinical trials search, drug assistance programs, and compassionate use protocols.

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December 1984

Frank Cook

December 1985

Felix Oramas

December 1986

Rick Hernandez

December 1987

Ron Parsons

December 1988

Linda Cottrell

David Marus

Richard Vaughn

Ralph Trainor

Sylvester

December 1989

Bill Quinn

Donny Dingler

Roy Frisch

Al Valdez

Bill Lemen

Stan Miguel-Ward

Wayne Rasmussen

Bob Ferrell

Bruce McDonough

December 1990

Jimmie Collier

Gary Batcher

Johnathan Francorow

Willis James

Edward Lennane

Jim Nolan

December 1991

Stan Hadden

Father David Myers

Charles James Hribal, Jr.

Tommy Gossett

Leonard Wilcox

Gilbert Lopez

December 1992

Michael Patterson

Jim Graham

Michael Barrett

Jim Scaman

Margaret Coelho

Xavier Franco

December 1993

Kim Ingraham

LeRoy Davidson

Ed Walker

Mary King

James Edward Graves

Cliff Clark

Paul Contreras

Rod Ashley

Alfred H. Gaul, Jr.

Kenric Brown

Michael Callen

December 1994:

Gary Smith

Ronnie Neal

George Smith

Gregg Cranert

Ric Marino

Linda L.

Brook R.

Robert Darrell Lippincott

Damon Wilson

John Kiely

Philip Johnson

Sammy Slater

Jerry Moyer

Mike Davis

Michael Naber

Henry Mejia

December 1995:

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Michael Brooks

David Bell

David C.

Thomas D.

James Jumper

Eric Mask

Bill W.

Billy V.

Kent Hull

William C.

Bridgette R.

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Charles J.

Michael Mears

December 1996

Paul Arthur Young

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Roger Dale Helms

Scott Deering

David Cannales

December 1997

Kirk Derby

December 1998

Jeff Smith

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David C. Jay

Dwight Graham

Marc Brian Smith

Monia Lisa Walker-Perry

Jim Mettler

Mike Amoretti

Christian Almerda

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Leonard Riley

Ermine Duccini

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For info about creating a NAMES Project AIDS memorial panel, call 484-4164.

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HEALTH / WELLNESS / SPIRITUALITY

Civil Marriage

The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA), called for civil marriage rights for same sex couples. The board outlined 13 legal rights and responsibilities that are denied, because of gender or sexual orientation.

GLMA President Donald I. Abrams, MD said "when people are allowed to live in committed relationships and create an environment of mutual emotional and financial support. Those kinds of relationships should be encouraged, not discouraged."

"Current law is a roadblock to health and well-being." GLMA calls for civil marriage to "afford committed couples particular rights and responsibilities including the:

- ▼ inherit automatically in the absence of a will,
- ▼ make medical decisions on a partner's behalf in the event of illness,
- ▼ take bereavement or sick leave to care for a spouse or child,
- ▼ obtain joint health, home, and auto insurance policies,
- ▼ have hospital visitation of a partner or child,
- ▼ file joint tax returns and obtain due rates and exemptions,
- ▼ have joint child custody, visitation, adoption, and foster care,
- ▼ obtain veterans' discounts on medical care, education, and home loans,
- ▼ obtain Social Security and Medicare benefits for one's spouse,

- ▼ obtain wrongful death benefits for a surviving spouse and children,
- ▼ choose a final resting place for a deceased spouse,
- ▼ receive non-taxed health benefits when companies provide partner and family health coverage and,
- ▼ legally bring a foreign spouse to the United States."

"This is an endorsement of the notion of 'families' in its most inclusive manner. 'Surely, everyone has a right to form a meaningful partnership and live in a mutually supportive family environment," said Abrams."

"Members of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association will make no attempt to force or persuade religious entities to embrace civil marriage, endorse it, or even recognize it - though we know many will," said GLMA Executive Director Maureen O'Leary. "However, we do expect civil servants, no matter what religious views they hold, to understand the difference between civil rights and religious beliefs and act accordingly."

The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association is an organization of more than 2000 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered physicians, medical students, and their supporters in all 50 U.S. states and 12 countries. Founded in 1981, GLMA works to combat homophobia within the medical profession and in society at large and to promote quality health care for GLBT patients.

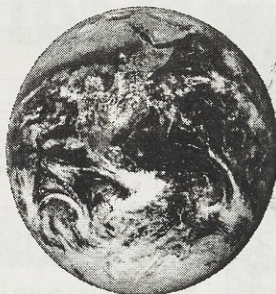
STD & HIV Prevention

In America, 12 million new cases of STD infections, including HIV, are reported to the Center for Disease Control every year. Worldwide, 2.1 million new cases of HIV infections are reported every year.

The new rave in STD and HIV infection protection is in the field of microbiology. Scientists are currently working with women controlled microbicides that could potentially curtail the spreading of HIV and other STD's.

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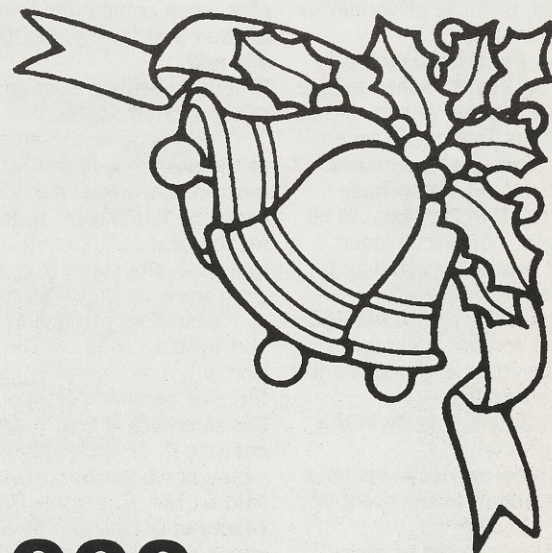
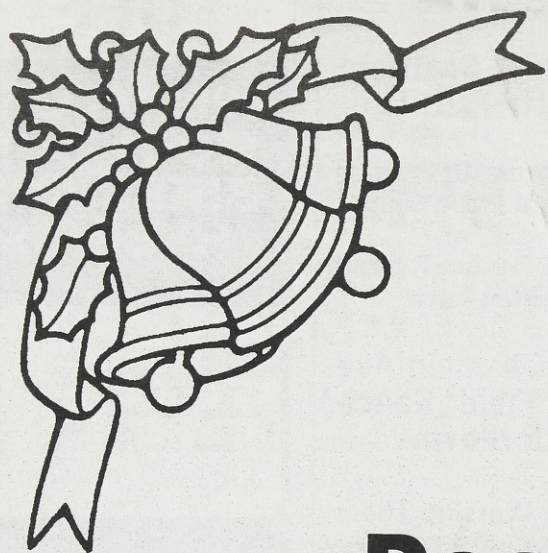
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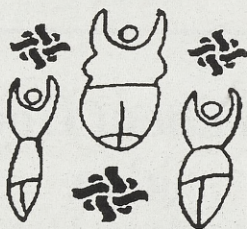
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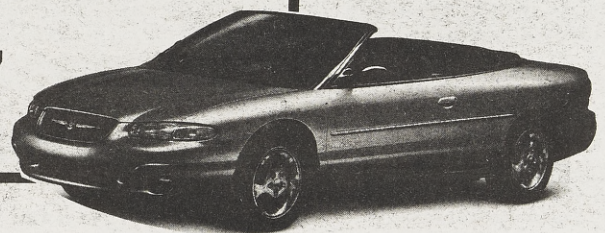
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Associates Hair Design, 3714 J St., 455-0667

HALLS / MEETING PLACES

Channel 6, KVIE, Ose Community Rm., 2595 Capital Oaks Dr., 929-5843
Musicians Hall, 1925 Del Paso Blvd., 565-2500
SMUD Building, 6301 S St., 916-732-5310
Verona Village Resort, 6985 Garden Hwy., 448-0706

HOTELS / INNS / RESORTS

Edgewater Resort, 6420 Soda Bay Rd., Kelseyville, Clearlake, 707-279-0208
Hartley House Bed And Breakfast Inn, 700 22nd St., 447-7829
La Residence Country Inn, 4066 St. Helena Hwy, Napa Valley; David & Craig, 707-253-0337

HOUSEKEEPING

Olga's Household Services Agency, 453-0762

INFORMATION

MGW Newspaper Archives, Past Issues Are Available On Microfilm At The Main Sacramento Library, CSUS Library, San Francisco Main Library

INSURANCE

Allstate, Dan Huffman, 5300 Madison Ave., Suite A, 344-3095
Farmers Insurance, Sue Wolf, 910 Florin Rd. #104, 421-0390
Wright & Kimbrough, 3231 Ramos Cr. #100, 362-6666

INTERNET SERVICES

Digital Image, Steve Sweetzer, 391-2410
SACWEB, 446-7457; 888-772-2932

JEWELRY

Arareity Fine Jewelry, 1021 R St., 446-1535
Jak Metzels Fine Jewelry, In The Rotunda, Downtown Plaza, 446-7711

MAILBOX RENTAL

Alhambra Mail & Parcel, 3104 O St., 731-4440

MINISTRY

Saint Aelred Abbey, 2214 Capitol Ave., 444-2786 x12/1

NURSERY

Lotus Valley Nursery/Garden, 5606 Peterson Lane, Lotus, 626-7001

OPTOMETRISTS

Dr. Cameron Yee, 6407 Riverside Blvd., 395-0673

PAGERS

Ray's Auto Stereo & Alarms, 1925 F St., 447-9753

PET CARE

Animal Housecall, Dr. Nancy Weagly, 456-0967
Capital Aquarium, 29th & T St., 452-5556
Fur People Pet Sitting, 457-1655
Home & Critter Sitter, 3104 O St., 447-0735
Kennel Room: Small Dog & Cat Grooming, 3104 Fulton Ave., 482-4542
Natomas Animal Medical Hospital, 615 Northfield Dr., 925-6138
Precious Pets, 5960 S. Land Park Dr., 454-9930
Pocket Animal Medical Hospital, 7465 Rush River Dr., 395-7387
Sunset Pet Hospital, 7751 Sunset Ave., 967-7768
Waggin Tails K9 Waste Removal, 987-8587

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography By Larry, 645-8447; 800-916-FOTO

PRINTING

Phenix Print & Image, 7600 Greenhaven Dr., 427-6986

PSYCHICS

Looking Beyond, 1-888-700-9342, 1-877-745-4155, 1-900-454-4255

REAL ESTATE

Cook Realty, Charon Jenner, 4305 Freeport Blvd, 763-1781
Kelley Realty, 6373 Riverside Blvd., Suite 124, 393-1111
Randy Hartley, 730 Alhambra Blvd., Coldwell Banker, 447-6545
Pfingst Realty, 9978 Folsom Blvd., 362-1166

REMODELING

Feather Your Nest Home Repair, Gayle Rendleman, 652-4204
Cherry Home Improvement: Windows/Doors, 933-0506

RESTAURANTS

City Treasure, 1730 L St., 447-7380
Dos Coyotes Border Cafe, 1735 Arden Way, 927-0377 (Market Square)
Ernesto's Mexican Food, 1901 16th St., 441-5850
The Greek Village Inn, 65 University Ave., 922-6334
Hamburger Mary's 1630 J St., 441-4340
Jack's Urban Eats, 20th & Capital, 444-0307
Joseph's Cafe & Bar, 1454 Del Paso & Arden, 922-8899
Paesano's, 1802 Capital Ave., 447-8646
Sacramento Brew Pub, Town & Country Village, 485-4677.
Stereo Repair

THERAPISTS / PSYCHOLOGISTS

Bruce Gunn, MFCC#M19480, 418 Alhambra Blvd., 443-7171
Deborah Otten, MFCC# Mv023109, 820 24th St., 443-6253
Carol Seidel, LCSW# 8474, 455-1162
Todd Van Laningham, 11620 Fair Oaks Blvd., # 203, 736-0828
Sandra Warne, MFCC#30585, 650 Howe Ave #730, 568-1025
Ellie Zacks, Ph.D., 6359 Auburn Blvd., 725-4713
Linda Tell, RN, MFT25888, 1731 I St., 443-6761

THRIFT STORES

MCC Good Samaritan Store, 3230 Broadway, 454-5019
Sutter Hospice/Roseville, 2120 Harding Blvd., 783-5509

TRAVEL

Sports Leisure Travel, 9527 Folsom Blvd., 361-2051
Uniglobe Expo Travel, Uwe Thaysen, 2100 Arden Way #220, 920-1701, 800-789-8785

UPHOLSTERY

Patrick's Furniture Refinishing And Upholstery, 931 Washington Blvd., Suite 111, Roseville, 786-6615

VCR REPAIR

Ray's Auto Stereo & Alarms, 1925 F St., 447-9753

VETERINARIANS

Animal Housecall, Dr. Nancy Weagly, 456-0967
Natomas Animal Medical Hospital, 615 Northfield Dr., 916-925-6138
Pocket Animal Medical Center, 7465 Rush River Dr., # 830, 916-395-7378

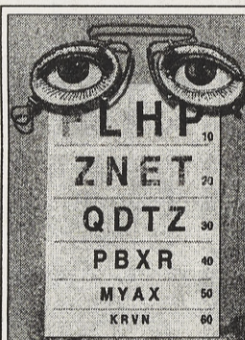
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CALENDAR

DECEMBER

1st Wednesday

WORLD AIDS DAY - AIDS ART RETROSPECTIVE, City of West Hollywood, 10am; CityWest Hollywood City Hall, 323-848-6306
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657
WORLD AIDS DAY - CANDLE LIGHT WALK, Breaking Barriers, 5:30pm, West Steps Capital building, 447-2437
COMMUNITY FORUM, with Don Casimere, Open Book, 7pm, 910 21st St., 498-1004
WORLD AIDS DAY LECTURE, Crocker Art Museum, 10:30am-12 noon, Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., 264-5423
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO GAYLE LANG!!!!

2nd Thursday

AUTHOR FELICE PICANO APPEARING, Open Book, 7pm, Open Book 910 21st St., 498-1004

3rd Friday

SACRAMENTO MEN'S CHORUS HOLIDAY CONCERT, thru December 4; 484-5789
GOD BLESS US, EVERYONE (revised), Actor's Workshop, thru January 2, 2000; The Actor's Theater, 1616 Del Paso Blvd, 925-6579
OLD SAC HERITAGE HOLIDAYS, Old Sac management, thru Dec. 19th, Old Sac, for more information call 558-3912
18th ANNUAL CELEBRITY WAITERS' LUNCHEON AND MISTLETOE MARKETPLACE; American Lung Assoc. 11am-1:30pm; 444-lung
MEET MICKEY HART; Tower Books; 6pm, Tower Books 2538 Watt Ave.
HOLIDAY PARTY; Bay Area Chapter of CSGRA; 8:30pm; 306 Baden Ave. S.F.; 415-552-5642
ARMANDO FLORES' HAIR WARS; The Rage Night Club; 1890 Arden Way; 483-9720, 929-3720

4th Saturday

HOW TO MAKE IT AS AN ACTOR, Timothy Busfield, 10am-1pm; B Street Theater, 2711 B St., 443-5300
A ONE NIGHT STAND, harebreynskyms.com, 7pm-10pm, Espresso Metro, 11th Ave. & Freeport Blvd, manicart@yahoo.com
VIDEO & POTLUCK, DOT, call 334-9361

5th Sunday

MESSIAH, Opera Players, 3pm; Modesto, 209-572-2867
LET THE MIRACLES BEGIN, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 448-2437
G/L SIERRANS, Folsom Lake Hike, -421-6209
A CLASSIC CHRISTMAS, Sacramento Capitolaire, 1pm and 3:30pm, Towe Auto Museum, 2200 Front Street, 442-6802
HOLIDAY CRAFTS BAZAAR, Sacramento Capitolaire, 10am-5pm, Towe Auto Museum, 2200 Front Street, 442-6802
THE NUTCRACKER, Jim Gamble Puppets, 1:30pm, Central Library, 828 I St., 264-2770
MEMORIAL FOR REVERAND JODI SAFIER; River City MCC Church

6th Monday

MEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, Lambda Community Center, 6-7:30pm; 1927 L St., 442-0185

7th Tuesday

SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV/AIDS GAY AND BI-SEXUAL MEN, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 6:30-8:30pm; 1330 21st St., 386-2504
SSPCA X-MAS TREE LOT, SPCA, thru Dec. 19th, 10am-4pm, SSPCA Shelter, 6201 Florin-Perkins Rd., 383-PETS
8th Wednesday
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657
AUTHOR KATHERINE FORREST APPEARING, Open Book, 7pm, Open Book, 910 21st St., 498-1004
HOLIDAY FUN, Puppet Art Puppet Theater, 4pm, Arden-Dimick Library, 891 Watt Ave., 264-2770

9th Thursday

THE NUTCRACKER, thru December 23; Community Center Theatre, 264-5181
BABES IN ARMS, Woodland Opera House School Outreach Program, 9am, 11am and 1pm; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617
CALIFORNIA WORKING FAMILIES POLICY SUMMIT; Sacramento Convention Center; 445-3173

10th Friday

CENTURY FAREWELL PARTY WITH SLIDESHOW, G/L Sierrans, 7pm; 2791 24th St., 421-6209
SACRAMENTO'S ANNUAL CANDLE-LIGHT VIGIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, 4:30-6pm; Corner of 16th & J Sts., 448-7157
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE; DNC; thru Dec 13th; 213-362-2000
ERIN GRUWELL; Author of "The Freedom Writers Diary"; 4pm; Jonas Salk Middle School 2950 Hurley Way; 565-0166
GRAND FINALE; ARMANDO FLORES' HAIR WARS; The Rage Night Club; 1890 Arden Way; 483-9720, 929-3720

11th Saturday

CHRISTMAS AT SEA, Hyde Street Pier, 415-561-6662
GLORIA!, Baroque Choral Guild, 8pm; First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton, Palo Alto, 408-733-8110
HOW TO MAKE IT AS AN ACTOR, Timothy Busfield, 10am-1pm; B Street Theater, 2711 B St., 443-5300
BOWLING, DOT, 2pm, Land Park Bowl, 736-4444
HOLIDAY DANCE, BACW, 9pm-1am, Sebastopol, Call Carol at 707-573-9137
ANIMALS' CHRISTMAS; PAWS; 12noon-3pm; PAWS Sanctuary on 11435 Simmerhorn Road; 757-7297

12th Sunday

GLORIA!, Baroque Choral Guild, 7:30pm; First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton, Palo Alto, 408-733-8110
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH, Sacramento Master Singers, 3pm, St. Francis Church, 26th & K St., 338-0300
ASIAN TREASURE BAG, Eth-Noh-Tec, 1:30pm, Central Library, 828 I St., 264-2770

13th Monday

MEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, Lambda Community Center, 6-7:30pm; 1927 L St., 442-0185
YOLO PFLAG HOLIDAY MEETING, Call for information: 707-678-3878

14th Tuesday

KEEPING OUR COOL: DISCUSSING AIDS WITH LOVED ONES, AIDS Interfaith Network, 7pm; First United Methodist Church, 21st & J Streets, 481-5487
SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV/AIDS GAY AND BI-SEXUAL MEN, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 6:30-8:30pm; 1330 21st St., 386-2504
DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY MIXER; Downtown Sacramento Partnership; 5:30-8:30pm; Old Navy Downtown Holiday Ice Rink 7th & K; 442-8575

15th Wednesday

GOD BLESS US, EVERYONE (revised), Actor's Workshop, thru January 2, 2000; The Actor's Theater, 1616 Del Paso Blvd, 925-6579
MATERIAL WITNESS: MASTERS FROM CA CRAFTS, Crocker Art Museum, thru January 2, 2000; 216 O St, 264-5423
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657
AUTHOR MIKAYA HEART APPEARING, Open Book, 7pm, Open Book, 910 21st St., 498-1004
FREE REIKI EXCHANGE, call: 530-753-9900

16th Thursday

HOT JAZZ FOR A COLD WINTER, Belle Cooledge Library, 4pm, Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Dr., 264-2770

17th Friday

WINTER CONCERT, SAC AIDS Foundation, 6:30-10pm, Crest Theater, 1013 K St., 448-2437 ext. 224
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH, Sacramento Master Singers, 8pm, St Francis Church, 26th & K St., 338-0300

18th Saturday

QUEER SWING DANCE, SwingOUT!, lessons 7pm-8:30pm, DJ until midnight; The California Club, 1750 Clay Street, SF, 415-339-8103
HOW TO MAKE IT AS AN ACTOR, Timothy Busfield, 10am-1pm; B Street Theater, 2711 B St., 443-5300
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH, Sacramento Master Singers, 8pm, St Francis Church, 26th & K St., 338-0300
SPECIAL CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CONCERT, Sacramento Master Singers, 4pm, First English Lutheran Church, 3860 4th Ave., 338-0300

19th Sunday

THEATER ORGAN CONCERTS: DAVID SAUER, Towe Auto Museum, 2pm; 2200 Font St., 442-6802
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING; Lavendar Library, Archives & Cultural Exchange of Sacramento Inc.; 6pm; 2727 B St. #2

21st Tuesday

RAP SESSION, PFLAG, 7:30-9:30; St. Marks United Methodist Church, ST. Marks Way & Lusk Dr., 978-0410
SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV/AIDS GAY AND BI-SEXUAL MEN, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 6:30-8:30pm; 1330 21st St., 386-2504
BEREAVEMENT GROUP; 11:30am-1pm; info:1-800-332-8531, or 568-1025

22nd Wednesday

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH, Sacramento Master Singers, 8pm, St. Francis Church, 26th & K St., 338-0300
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

26th Sunday

BARBER SHOP QUARTET, Towe Auto Museum, 2pm; 2200 Font St., 442-6802

28th Tuesday

SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV/AIDS GAY AND BI-SEXUAL MEN, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 6:30-8:30pm; 1330 21st St., 386-2504
29th Wednesday
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

31st Friday

SAN FRANCISCO'S MILLENIUM CELEBRATION, TBA
DIE FLEDERMAUS, Townsend Opera Players; Modesto, 209-572-2867

JANUARY 2000

1st Saturday

MATERIAL WITNESS: MASTERS FROM CA CRAFTS, Crocker Art Museum, thru January 2; 216 O St, 264-5423
GOD BLESS US, EVERYONE (revised), Actor's Workshop, thru January 2; The Actor's Theater, 1616 Del Paso Blvd, 925-6579

5th Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

12th Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

14th Friday

ROADRUNNER REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru January 16; Phoenix, AZ, 602-265-0618

15th Saturday

ROADRUNNER REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru January 16; Phoenix, AZ, 602-265-0618

16th Sunday

ROADRUNNER REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA; Phoenix, AZ, 602-265-0618

17th Monday

DRUMMERS OF WEST AFRICA, 8pm; UC Davis, Freeborn Hall, 530-752-1915
SISTER HELEN PREJEAN; Author of Dead Man Walking; 7pm; Trinity Cathedral Church; 2620 Capitol Ave; 489-7143

19th Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657
FREE REIKI EXCHANGE, call 530-753-9900

22nd Saturday

SACRAMENTO'S RARE BOOK & EPHEMERA SHOW & SALE, Argus Books, 10am-5pm, Sac Convention Center, 1400 J St., 443-6223
SACRAMENTO LAMBDA LETTERS PROJECT MEMBERSHIP MEETING; 9:30am; Trinity Episcopal Cathedral; 2620 Capitol Ave.; 965 6851

23rd Sunday

SACRAMENTO'S RARE BOOK & EPHEMERA SHOW & SALE, Argus Books, 10am-4pm, Sac Convention Center, 1400 J St., 443-6223

26th Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

Theatre/Dance/Orchestra

ACTOR'S THEATRE; 1616 Del Paso Blvd., 916-925-6579
AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE; Brighton Beach Memoirs, February 25 thru March 5; The Glass Menagerie, April 28 thru May 7, 2000; 4700 College Oaks Dr., 916-484-8234
AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE; Dec. 1st, ARC Orchestra, 8pm, Info 484-8433; Dec. 2nd, Concert Band & Commercial Music Ensemble, 8pm, info: 484-8433; Dec. 3rd, Jazz Choir, 8pm, info: 484-8433; Dec. 5, Symphonic Band, 3pm, 484-8368; Dec. 6, Evening & Daytime Jazz Bands, 8pm, 484-8549; December 7, Chamber Singers & Concert Choir, 8pm, 484-8357; Dec. 12, Capital Jazz Project, 7pm, 484-8549; 4700 College Oaks Dr., 916-484-8646
ARCO ARENA; Boston Pops; December 2nd 7:30pm at the Arco Arena, 649-8497
ARDEN PLAYHOUSE; "ROOMIES"; Thru January 29th, (except holiday weekends); 2120 Royale Rd.; 927-0942
B STREET THEATRE, Cricket On The Hearth, various times showing Wednesday thru Sunday, thru January 2, 2000; 2711 B St., 916-443-5300
BAROQUE CHORAL GUILD; "GLORIA"; Dec 11th-12th; S.F.; 415-252-5900
CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL MUSEUM; Holiday Music Program; thru December 23rd; 12 noon to 1:30 pm Monday thru Friday, & 11:30am-3pm on Saturdays & Sundays
CAMELLIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, The Essence of Time - 'In my beginning is my end', February 5; Toward the Unknown Region - 'We shall not cease from exploration', April 1; Time Future...Time Past - California and Beyond, May 20, 21; 916-929-6655
CITY THEATRE, The Skin of Our Teeth, thru December 11; What the Butler Saw, February 25 thru March 25; As You Like It, April 14 thru May 20; Sacramento City College, 3835 Freeport Blvd., 916-558-2228
CIRQUE DU SOLEIL; "DRALION"; Begins Feb. 3rd, 2000; Pacific Bell Parking Lot, SF, 1-800-678-5440
CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER; 25 Van Ness Ave., Lower Lobby, San Francisco, 415-861-8972
CREST THEATRE; Judy Collins & Sacramento Men's Chorus; 6:30 pm December 17, 1999; 1330 21st St.; 448-2437 ext 224
EAGLE THEATRE, Annie, thru December 18; Little Shop of Horrors, December 31 thru February 12; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, February 18 thru April 1; Pippin, April 21 thru June 3; 925 Front St., Old Sacramento, 916-207-1226
FOOTHILL THEATRE COMPANY; Ciy Centre Playhouse, Grass Valley, 530-265-8587
GARBEAU'S DINNER THEATRE; 1940's Radio Hour, thru January 2; Nunsense II, January 7 thru February 27; The Odd Couple March 3rd-April 16th; Forever Plaid, April 21st - June 11th; Blues in the Night, Aug. 4th - Sept. 24th; Greater Tuna, Sept. 29th - November 12th; Christmas in Time, November 17th - January 7th, 2000; Hwy 50 at Hazel Ave., 916-985-6361
GEERY THEATRE; Auditions for "Make Way for Dyklings"; Decemeber 5th; 7pm; 24th St. Theatre; 2791 24th St.; 366-3904
GEORGE COATES PERFORMANCE WORKS, "Up Your Ass", Comedy By Valerie Solanas; opens Jan 12, 2000; 110 McAllister St., SF; 415-863-8520
GOLD COUNTRY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA; 4746 El Camino Ave; Carmichael; 485-4478
HANDBELL ENDEMBLE SONGS; "SOUNDS OF THE HOLIDAYS"; Dec 10th at 7:30pm at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette; Saturday Dec 11th at 7:30pm at First Unitarian Church 1187 Franklin St., SF; 415-392-4400
NAPA VALLEY SYMPONY, Lincoln Theatre; Holiday Pops, December 5, 3pm; 2407 California Blvd., Napa, 707-226-6872
NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER, "WHO'S AFRAID OF EDWARD ALBEE"
Previews: Dec 1st-4th & 8th-10th at 8pm, Dec 5th at 2pm
Opens: Dec 11th
Plays: Dec 11th-Jan 22nd; Wed-Sat at 8pm, Sunday Matinees Dec 5th, 19th, 26th, & Jan 2nd, 16th at 2pm
25 Van Ness Avenue, Lower Lobby at Market St., SF, 415-861-8972
OAKLAND BALLET, Nutcracker, December 10-24; Paramount Theater, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, 510-452-9288
PAMELA TROKANSKI DANCE THEATRE; FALL CONCERT; Dec 2-4th, shows at 8pm; Veterans Memorial Theatre 203 14th St., Davis; 756-3949
PLAYWRIGHTS THEATRE; "MACBETH"; Nov 18th-21st, & Dec 2nd-5th; Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sunday 2pm; 278-6604
RIVER STAGE, Our Lady of the Tortilla, thru December 5; The Scottsboro Boys, March 4-26, 2000; Playwright's Festival, May 11-14, 2000; Gurley, July 8-23, 2000; 8401 Center Parkway, 916-688-7138
RUTH ROSENBERG DANCE ENSEMBLE; 24th Street Theatre, 2791 24th St., 916-457-7733
SACRAMENTO BALLET, The Nutcracker, December 9-23; Romeo and Juliet, February 10-13; La Sonambula, March 30 thru April 2, 2000; 1631 K St., 264-5181
SACRAMENTO LIGHT OPERA ASSOCIATION, "TAP DOGS"; Dec 28th-Jan 2nd; "RAISIN" Thur-Sun beginning Jan 8th thru Jan 23rd; "CABARET"; Feb 1st-6th; "RENT"; March 7th-12th; "THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL"; April 18th-23rd; "TRIUMPH OF LOVE"; MAY 16th-21ST; "TITANIC"; June 20th-25th; 557-1999, 264-5181, or 766-BASS
SACRAMENTO THEATRE COMPANY, Jodie's Body, thru December 5; A Christmas Carol, November 26-December 24; Kokoro (True Heart), January 11-February 6; Same Time, Next Year, February 1-April 9; Wicked Old Songs, February 22-March 19; Alabama Sky, April 4-30; 1419 H St., 916-443-6722
SACRAMENTO YOUTH SYMPHONY & ACADEMY OF MUSIC, "SYMPHONIC HOLIDAY"; Dec. 12th at 3pm, Bert Chappell Theater, Hiram Johnson High School, 14th Ave. at 65th St., 388-5777
SIGNATURE THEATRE COMPANY; "ENTER THE NIGHT"; Opening December 5th runs thru Dec 19th; Signature Theatre Company's Peter Norton Space; 555 W. 42nd St., N.Y.; 212-244-7529
THEATER RHINOCEROS; "A CHRISTMAS MEMORY"; December 13th at 7pm; Jaywalker, thru December 12; Barebacking, A Sex Panic! Comedy, January 20 thru February 19; Latin Hustle, March 16 thru April 15; Whatever happened to Sister George? May 18 thru June 17; 2926 16th St., San Francisco, 415-861-5079
UC DAVIS, Empyrean Ensemble; Borromeo String Quartet, Freeborn hall, 8pm, December 3; UCD Symphony Orchestra, 8pm, December 3; American Bach Soloists, 8pm, December 20; University of California-Davis, 1 Shields Drive, 530-752-5537
THE WOODLAND OPERA HOUSE, The Mystery of Irma Vep, January 28 thru February 19; Godspell, March 31 thru April 22; On Gilden Pond, May 19 thru June 10; 340 2nd St., Woodland, 530-666-9617

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS THEATER; Helgi Tomasson, April 10; 700 Howard St., San Francisco, 415-978-ARTS

CALENDAR

9th Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

10th Thursday

ROMEO AND JULIET, thru February 13; Community Center Theatre, 264-5181

11th Friday

CARMEN, Townsend Opera Players, 8pm; Modesto, 209-572-2867

13th Sunday

CARMEN, Townsend Opera Players, 8pm; Modesto, 209-572-2867

15th Tuesday

THE MYSTERY OF IRMA VEP, Woodland Opera House, thru February 19; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617
IRISH MUSIC w/ALTAN,

16th Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657
FREE REIKI EXCHANGE, call 530-753-9900

23rd Wednesday

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, call for more information 442-4657

24th Thursday

WHO/DOUGLASS-LEE PRODUCTION, Woodland Junior High & Opera House, 9am and noon; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

PEANUTS & THE NO.1, Women's Philharmonic, 8pm; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, SF, 415-437-0123

MARCH

2nd Saturday

FAURE REQUIEM, Sacramento Master Singers, 8pm, First United Methodist Church, 21st & J St., 338-0300

3rd Sunday

BIGHORN RODEO, IGRA, thru March 5; Las Vegas, 888-643-6472
FAURE REQUIEM, Sacramento Master Singers, 3pm, First United Methodist Church, 21st & J St., 338-0300

4th Monday

BIGHORN RODEO, IGRA, thru March 5; Las Vegas, 888-643-6472

5th Tuesday

BIGHORN RODEO, IGRA; Las Vegas, 888-643-6472

7th Thursday

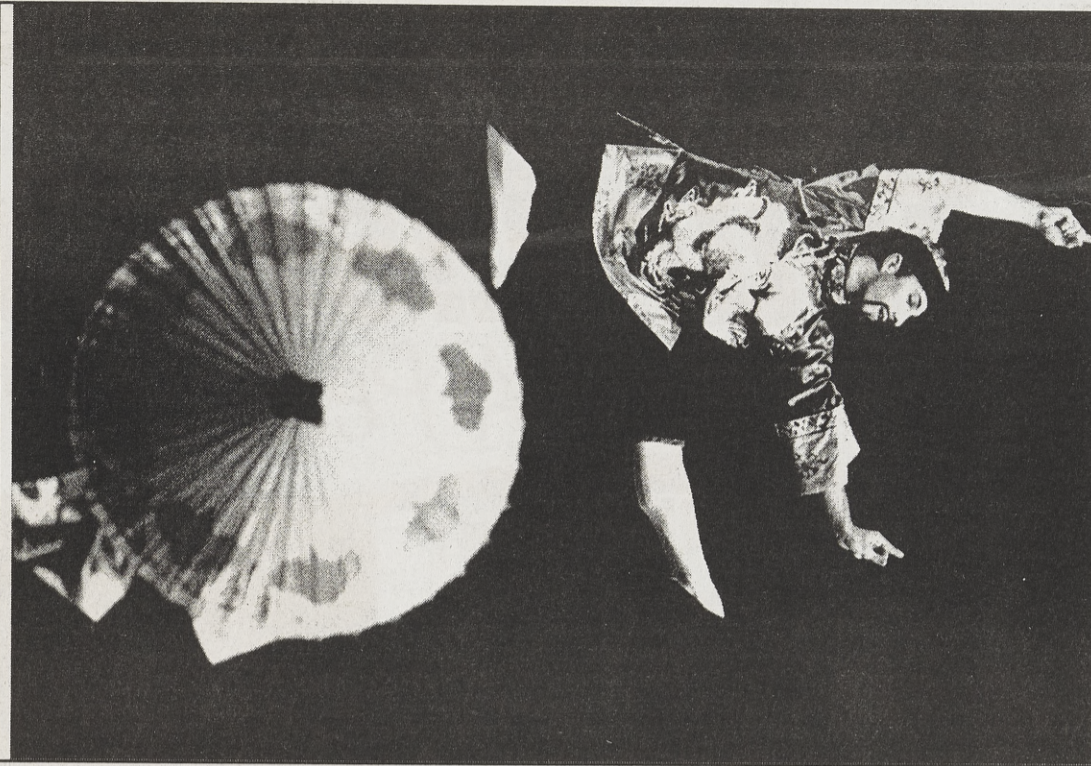
ELECTION DAY

9th Thursday

LASER VAUDEVILLE, Woodland Opera House School Outreach Program, 9am, 11am and 1pm; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

18th Saturday

BEETHOVEN, SYMPHONY No. 7, Sacramento Orchestra, 8pm; Sacramento Community Theater, 922-9200
LAVA 2000, Hyatt Regency Embarcadero, 510-531-2863



The Sacramento Ballet presents Grant Spencer as Chinese Divertissement in The Nutcracker.

25th Friday

THE MISSISSIPPI & THE BEACH, Women's Philharmonic, 8pm; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, SF, 415-437-0123

30th Wednesday

LA SONNAMBULA, The Sacramento Ballet; Community Center Theatre, 264-5181

31st Thursday

GODSPELL, Woodland Opera House; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

APRIL

1st Friday

GODSPELL, Woodland Opera House, thru April 22; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

6th Wednesday

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW, Woodland Opera House School Outreach Program, 9am, 11am and 1pm; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

7th Thursday

MY CASTLE'S ROCKIN', The Lambda Players, thru May 6, 8pm; Geery Theatre, 366-3904

8th Friday

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE, Townsend Opera Player, 8pm; Modesto, 209-572-2867

14th Thursday

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE, Townsend Opera Player, 8pm; Modesto, 209-572-2867
LA RODEO, thru April 16; 562-498-1675

15th Friday

GODSPELL, Woodland Opera House, thru April 22; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617
LA RODEO, thru April 16; 562-498-1675

16th Saturday

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE, Townsend Opera Player, 2pm; Modesto, 209-572-2867
LA RODEO, thru April 16; 562-498-1675

18th Monday

Liz's Birthday

21st Thursday

USTAD ALI AKBAR KHAN, 8pm; Freeborn Hall, UC Davis, 530-752-1915

22nd Friday

EARTH DAY

GODSPELL, Woodland Opera House; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

MAY

4th Thursday

WOMEN SPEAK: ON THE EDGE, The Sacramento Ballet, thru May 8; Crest Theatre, 264-5181

6th Saturday

BERNSTEIN, SYMPHONY No. 2 "AGE OF ANXIETY" & WEST SIDE STORY SUITES, Sacramento Orchestra, 8pm; Sacramento Community Theater, 922-9200

10th Wednesday

KITKA WOMEN'S VOCAL ENSEMBLE, LINDA TILLERY & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE CHOIR, 8pm; Freeborn Hall, UC Davis, 530-752-1915

13th Saturday

MISS SAIGON, Music Circus & Sacramento Light Opera Association, thru June 5, 557-1999

16th Tuesday

LOVE! VALOUR! COMPASSION!, The Lambda Players, thru July 1; 24th Street Theatre, 366-3904

19th Friday

ON GOLDEN POND, Woodland Opera House, thru June 10; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

20th Saturday

THE MOON IS SILENTLY SINGING, Sacramento Master Singers, 8pm, First United Methodist Church, 21st & J St., 338-0300

21st Sunday

THE MOON IS SILENTLY SINGING, Sacramento Master Singers, 3pm, First United Methodist Church, 21st & J St., 338-0300

26th Friday

ODYSSEY, ZOOM & TRANSMIGRATION, Women's Philharmonic, 8pm; Herbst Theater, SF, 415-437-0123
GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru May 28; Oklahoma City, OK, 405-842-0849

27th Saturday

GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru May 28; Oklahoma City, OK, 405-842-0849

28th Sunday

GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA; Oklahoma City, OK, 405-842-0849

JUNE

1st Thursday

ON GOLDEN POND, Woodland Opera House, thru June 10; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

2nd Friday

SALT LAKE CITY RODEO, IGRA, thru June 4; 801-468-6283

3rd Saturday

SALT LAKE CITY RODEO, IGRA, thru June 4; 801-468-6283

4th Sunday

SALT LAKE CITY RODEO, IGRA; 801-468-6283

10th Saturday

ON GOLDEN POND, Woodland Opera House; 340 Second St, 530-666-9617

16th Friday

BAY AREA REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru June 18; San Jose, 415-561-9228

17th Saturday

BAY AREA REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru June 18; San Jose, 415-561-9228

18th Sunday

BAY AREA REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA; San Jose, 415-561-9228

23rd Friday

HEARTLAND REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru June 25; Omaha, NE, 800-561-6918

24th Saturday

HEARTLAND REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA, thru June 25; Omaha, NE, 800-561-6918

25th Sunday

HEARTLAND REGIONAL RODEO, IGRA; Omaha, NE, 800-561-6918

30th Friday

CANADIAN ROCKIES INT'L RODEO, IGRA, thru July 2; Calgary, AB, CN, 403-541-8140

JULY

1st Saturday

CANADIAN ROCKIES INT'L RODEO, IGRA, thru July 2; Calgary, AB, CN, 403-541-8140

2nd Sunday

CANADIAN ROCKIES INT'L RODEO, IGRA; Calgary, AB, CN, 403-541-8140

25th Friday

GABI'S BIRTHDAY, 25 yrs.

ART GALLERIES / MUSEAUMS

ASHCAN GALLERY; Third Annual Juried Show; January 13th-28th; "The Promised Land"; February 7th thru March 3rd; 6005 Auburn Blvd., 916-729-8246
ART FOUNDRY GALLERY; "ITALIAN FLAVORS", Roger B. Stephens thru Dec 31st; "VESSELS & CONTAINERS" thru Dec 31st; 1021 R St., 916-444-2787
BIG ART GALLERY; "The Big End", Varied Artists, thru December 31; 1928 L St., 916-446-2740
BLOOMING ART; Faces of Time; Dec. 1st-January 18th; 1901 Capitol Ave., 916-442-3800
CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART; "Rebuilding the City", Ron Unruh, thru December 18; 1516 Del Paso Blvd., 916-927-2278
CHROMA GALLERY; "Plein-air Radiance", Varied Artists, thru December 8th thru January 2; 10030 Fair Oaks Blvd., 916-966-6020
CROCKER ART MUSEUM, Annual Baroque Ball; December 4th 6pm-1am; Material Witness: Masters from California Crafts, thru January 2, 2000; American Impressionist Paintings from Wet Coast Collections; Eye of the Needle: Chinese Textiles & Embroideries; Double Take: Photography from the Museum Collection, thru January 30, 2000; Discovery Gallery Level Material Witness: Masters from California Crafts, thru January 2, 2000; Art Travel, The Phoenix Art Museum; March 31st thru April 2, 2000; 216 O St., 916-264-5423
DOIRON GALLERY; "Gallery Artists Holiday Showcase", Various Artists, thru December 8; "KRITOS FIVE", Various Artists Dec 9th thru Jan. 19, 2000, 1625 Del Paso Blvd., 916-564-4433
EXCENTRIQUE FUNCTIONAL ART GALLERY; "Stories and Lies", Miriam Morris thru December 3; Bill Baldeewicz, Neo-Primitive Photo Furnishings; tue-fri 12 to 4pm; Dec 11th-30th; 446-1786; 1409 R St., 916-446-1786
FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO; Wedding Dresses from the permanent Collection, thru January 23; TWO IMPORTANT ACQUISITIONS FOR THE NEW DE YOUNG, thru Feb 5th, 2000; De Young Museum, Golden Gate Park, 75 Tea Garden Dr., San Francisco, 415-750-7692
FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO, PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR; Recent Acquisitions at the Legion; Spirit Country: Australian Aboriginal Art from the Gantner Myer Collection, September 18 thru January 9, 2000; Richard Diebenkorn's 41 Etchings, September 25 thru January 16; Animals Real and Imagined: Artists Books from the Permanent Collection; 34th Ave. & Clement St., San Francisco, 415-863-3330
GALLERY 8; "Paintings On Canvas", Vera Ximenes, November 13 thru December 4; 2906 Franklin Blvd., 916-456-4278
GALLERY ONE; 291 Auburn-Folsom Rd., 530-823-3646
KZ's GALLERY & CAF.; 1630 K Street
MEXICAN MUSEUM, "La Patria Portatil: 100 Years of Mexican Chromo Art", thru January 2, 2000; Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, 415-202-9700
M.H. DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM; Between the Black Dessert and the Red; Narratives of African American Art & Identity; thru February 13th, 2000; Museum Pieces: Bay Area Artists Consider the De Young; thru March 12th, 2000; A New De Young in Golden Gate Park; Gonçat-Plan by Herzog & de Meuron; thru January 2nd; Two Important Acquisitions for the New De Young thru February 5th; Alain Kirili: A Dialogue with Rodin; thru January 2nd; Spirit Country: Australian Aboriginal Art from the Gantner Myer Collection; thru January 9th; Richard Diebenkorn's 41 Etchings; thru January 16th; Abstraction in Artist Books from the Permanent Collection; thru February 20th; 75 Tea Garden Drive, S.F. CA; 415-750-7692
MICHAEL HIMOVITZ GALLERY, "CIRCUS" featuring Mitsuo Katsui, Dec 11; 6-10pm; 1616 Del Paso Blvd., Suite 3, 916-929-7896
NELSON ART; Valentines Benefit Exhibition; January 24th thru Feb. 12th; Monday thru Friday 12 noon to 5pm; Sundays 2-5pm; Richard L. Nelson Gallery; Art Building on UC Davis campus; 752-8500
PARHAM GALLERY FINE & EXOTIC TEAPOTS, "Lax Airport Teapot Exhibit", Nov '99-Feb 2000; S/West Air Terminal, #1 upstairs; 2847 S. Armacost Ave. L.A.
RICHARD L. NELSON GALLERY & THE FINE ARTS COLLECTION, "Drawings, Paintings, & Objects: 1990-1999", Julia Couzens, thru December 10; UC Davis, The Nelson Gallery, Art Building, 530-752-8500
SACRAMENTO FINE ARTS CENTER GALLERIES; 13th Annual Holiday Boutique; Tues-Sat 10am-5pm Sunday 1-5pm; December 1st-19th; 5330-B Gibbons Drive, Carmichael; 971-3713
SAN FRANCISCO MOMA, Paul Klee, Signs of Life, thru March 14; Full Moon, Apollo Mission Photographs of the Lunar Landscape, thru January 11, Julia Margaret Cameron's Women, thru November 30, Jasper Johns, New Paintings and Works on Paper, thru January 4, Degas to Picasso: Sculptors and the Camera, thru January 2; Seeing Time: Selections from the Pamela and Richard Kramlich Collection of Media Art, thru January 9; Far Out: Design from the Sixties, November 12 thru February 20; The Architecture of Graphics: Design for SCI-Arc from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design; Edge City: Work by Steven Holl from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design, November 12 thru February 20, 2000; New Work: Painting Today, Recent Acquisitions, December 17 thru March, 2000; Short Distances and Definite Places: The Photographs of William Gedney, January 21, 2000; Sol LeWitt: A Retrospective, February 19 thru May 21; Structure & Surface: Contemporary Japanese Textiles, March 10 thru June 20; Germaine Krull, April 14 thru July 30; Rene Magritte, May 5 thru September 30; Robert Gober: Sculpture & Drawings, June 9 thru September 4; Walker Evans, June thru September 12; Ellsworth Kelly in San Francisco, June thru August 29; Experiments: Recent Accessions in Architecture & Design, July thru October; Messengers of Modernism: American Studio Jewelry, 1940-1960; Celebrating Modern Art: The Anderson Collection, October 7 thru January 2001; A Hidden Picasso, November, 2000; 151 3rd St., San Francisco, 415-357-4000, <http://www.sfmoma.org>
SOLOMON DUBNICK GALLERY; "Big Kids Toybox"; Dec. 2nd-31st; 2131 Northrop Ave., 916-920-4547
STILL LIFE GALLERY; "Eunice Olson", 6-9pm thru Dec 10th; Visions of the Apocalypse; Dec 11th; 6-9pm 2231 J St. suite 102; 446-6786
UC DAVIS, Pamela Shields, "Pocahantas Erotica", thru December 17; Julia Couzens, "Drawings and Mixed-Media Works", thru December 10; Malaquias Montoya; Visual Impact: The Art of the Poster, thru April 22; Nelson Gallery Day Without Art, December 1; University of California-Davis, 1 Shields Ave., Art Building, 530-752-1915
VIEWPOINT GALLERY, Annual SAMCC Exhibit, thru December 10; John Sexton, December 17 thru January 28, 2000, reception January 8, 5:30pm; Richard Miller, February 4 thru March 17, reception February 12, 5:30pm; 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., 916-441-2341
WEAVE, Photographer Kevin J. Boyd "A DIVERSITY OF LIFE"; December 11, 1999; 6-9:30pm; Weave, 919 20th St.



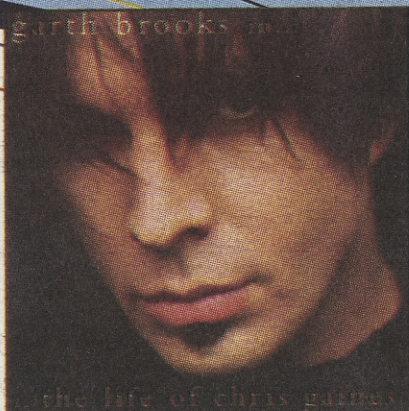
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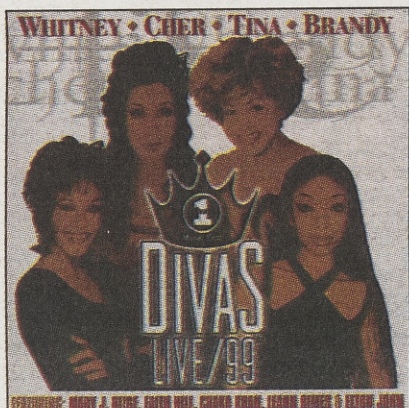
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